

Climate Change

Lesson Title: If you love our world

Duration: 30 minutes

Aim:

- To develop a sense of responsibility for taking care of the environment.
- To identify simple strategies for improving and caring for the environment.

Subjects: ■ Science

■ Visual Arts

■ Music

Strands: ■ Environmental awareness and care

■ Drawing

■ Performing

Strand Units: ■ Caring for my locality

■ Making drawings

■ Song singing

Class: Junior and Senior Infants / Key Stage 1

You will need:

Climate Change worksheet for Junior and Senior Infants, weather chart/clock, paper for helping hands, colouring utensils.

Introduction:

Talk about the weather with the children. Use the weather chart/clock or other suitable pictures as stimulus. What is the weather like today? What do you think it will be like tomorrow? What is your favourite type of weather and why? How do you feel when it is rainy or sunny? What do you play when it is rainy or sunny?

STEP 1

Ask the class to imagine what it would be like if the weather was always very dry, what would happen? Elicit responses such as dry grass, thirsty people and animals etc. Imagine what would happen if it always rained: floods, mucky fields etc. Tell the children that in poorer countries where Trócaire works, the weather is sometimes too hot or too rainy and that this causes problems for the people living there. Talk about what problems they might have: no water to drink, no rain for the plants or too much rain which washes the seeds away. Explain that we must all take care of the environment.

STEP 2

Ask the children what they can do to take care of the environment. Elicit planting trees, recycling, saving water, turning off the lights etc. Sing the song 'If you love our world' to the children (sing to the tune of 'If you're happy and you know it'). Ask them to try to sing along the second time round. When they know the words, invite the pupils to make up actions for each verse as they go along.

STEP 3

Talk about what is happening in the pictures on the worksheet. Where is the girl getting her water from? Where do we get our water from? Why is she getting water? What do we use water for? Ask the pupils to read the high-frequency words that are familiar to them in the text under each picture e.g. goes, is, gets, no, to, and, have, etc.

Conclusion:

Hold up the worksheet and explain to the children that they should put an X through the pictures that show the bad things that can happen because of changes in the environment. The pupils should colour the other two pictures. Don't forget to sing the song again!

Extension Activity:

Help the children to draw around their hands and cut the shape out. The children draw something they will do to care for the environment. Put all of the hands together and name the display 'Helping hands'.



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Working for a Just World

Climate Change

Lesson Title: Make a Climate Promise!

If You Love Our World

If you love our world, clap your hands (clap, clap)
If you love our world, clap your hands (clap, clap)
If you love our world, really really love our world;
If you love our world, clap your hands! (clap, clap)



If you love our world, plant new trees (new trees!)
If you love our world, plant new trees (new trees!)
If you love our world, plant new trees for birds and bees;
If you love our world, plant new trees! (new trees!)



If you love our world, recycle (recycle!)
If you love our world, recycle (recycle!)
If you love our world, then recycle and reuse;
If you love our world, recycle! (recycle!)



If you love our world, do your part (do your part!)
If you love our world, do your part (do your part!)
If you love our world, really really love our world;
If you love our world, BE SMART! (be smart!!)



Climate Change

Worksheet for Junior and Senior Infants / Key Stage 1

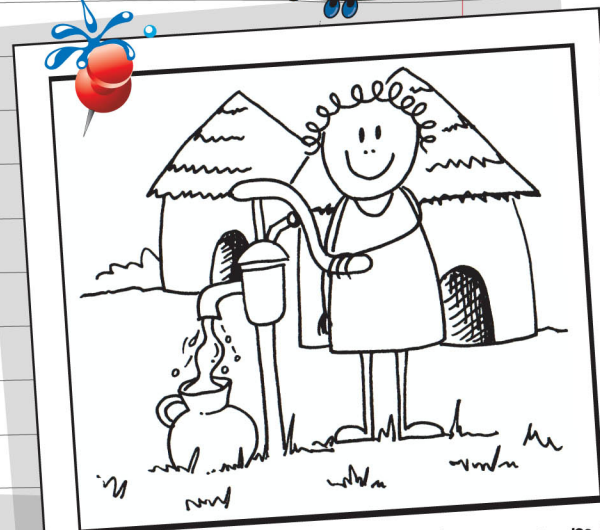
My name is

super beanie

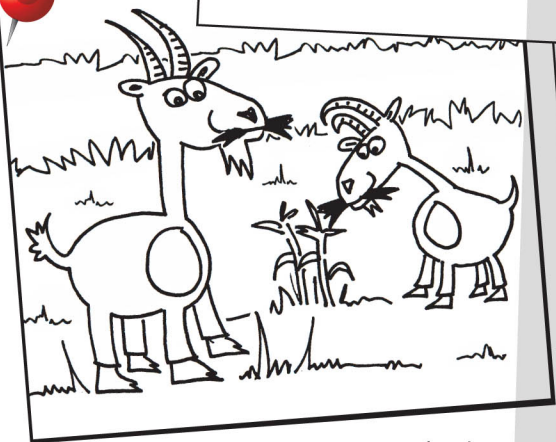
Join me in the battle against climate change!



She goes to the river and there is no water.



She goes to the village pump and gets a jerry-can full of water.



The two goats have lots of nice grass and bushes to eat.



The two goats cannot find food to eat. It is too dry.

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Climate Change

Lesson Title: Make a Climate Promise!

Duration: 40 minutes

- Aim:**
- To identify everyday uses of electricity and ways to reduce electricity consumption.
 - To understand the connection between our use of electricity and Climate Change.
 - To get into the habit of switching off lights when not needed.

Subjects: ■ Science

■ SPHE

■ History

Strands: ■ Environmental awareness and care

■ Myself and the wider world

■ Myself and my family

Strand Units: ■ Caring for my locality

■ Developing citizenship
– environmental care

■ When my grandparents
were young

Class: 1st and 2nd / Key Stage 1

You will need:

Pictures of items used before the invention of electrical items, Nangiro's story, Climate Change fact sheet, paper for slogans, colouring utensils, worksheet for 1st and 2nd class.

Introduction:

Think about how people lived without electricity 200 years ago. Ask the pupils to brainstorm what they use electricity for and to think about what people did before electricity was discovered. Pictures of 'old times' may help start the discussion.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| ■ Light bulbs – candles | ■ Radiator – fire place | ■ Microwave – stove |
| ■ DVDs/movies – theatre | ■ Telephone – letter | ■ Computer – pen and paper |

STEP 1

Tell the children that every time we use electricity, it affects the climate by releasing gases into the air (see Climate Change fact sheet). These make the climate change, which means it gets too warm and dry in some countries and in other places it rains more. This makes life very difficult for farmers in poorer countries and children like Nangiro. Discuss why. Tell the class Nangiro's story.

STEP 2

Ask the children to imagine how they would spend an hour a day without using any electricity to try to stop Climate Change. What food would they eat? They would only have food that does not need heating, cooling or energy to make it. Remember, milk and butter need electricity to keep them cold in the fridge. They would have no electricity to watch TV or use lights. [As a homework assignment the pupils could try to live without using electricity between three and four o'clock, when they go home from school. Discuss whether it was

possible to avoid using electricity. Did they find it difficult or easy? What did the pupils do instead of what they normally do? Was it fun?]

STEP 3

Make the class aware of where the light switches are in the classroom. Ask what would happen if the lights were turned off as people leave the room (we would save electricity). In pairs, the pupils create a slogan to be placed beside each light switch e.g. "Switch me off, when you don't need me", "Switch me off to save the climate!", "Switch me off and switch on your future!" The pupils then draw cartoon-style images, which accompany the slogans. A new job in the class can be created: 'guardian of the light'. The light guardian's job is to turn on and off lights as people come and go in the room e.g. at break times. The pupils can take turns doing this job.

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Conclusion:

Distribute the worksheet and ask the children to look at pictures 1, 2 and 3. Colour the things that save energy green (bicycle, shower, CFL bulb) and colour red the things that use lots of energy (car, bath, regular light bulb). Help the children to write on the worksheet the reason why they would use, for example, a shower instead of a bath. After the worksheet has been completed, invite the children to share their very own climate promise with the class (one small change they are going to make).



Cambodia



Kenya

Extension Activity:

Divide the class into groups of four. Ask the children to make an outline of a tree on a large sheet of paper using their colouring pencils. Invite them to write or draw their climate promises inside the tree.



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Climate Change

Worksheet for 1st and 2nd Class / Key Stage 1

My name is _____

Date _____

super beanie

Join me in the
battle against
climate
change!

1 Instead of
using this,



1 I will sometimes
use this,

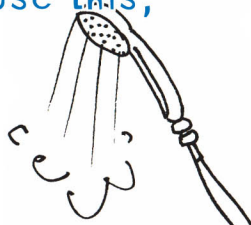


1 because...

2 Instead of
using this,



2 I will sometimes
use this,



2 because...

3 Instead of
using this,



3 I will sometimes
use this,



3 because...

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