



## Climate Change: Green Team and Classroom learning and activities

Use these tools and activities to engage students in learning about climate change and to empower students to lead and take action to combat climate change. We recommend pairing resources with activities which your class or Green Team can carry out. Activities can be used in-person, in virtual meetings, or via email or community boards.

### Resources for building context

**Questions for students** to use with the reading or video recommendations.

- When you think about climate change, what comes to mind?
- Who do you think gets impacted by climate change? What might lead to some groups of people experiencing more impacts from climate change than others?
- Are there facts you heard about climate change that you want to understand better?
- What have you heard or learned that inspires you to take action on climate change?
- What actions do you want to take?

### Reading recommendations

#### *Elementary school recommendations*

- [The Magic School Bus and the Climate Challenge](#) by Joanna Cole (author) and Bruce Degen (illustrator) (grades 2-5)
- [Greta and the Giants](#) by Zoe Tucker (author) and Zoe Persico (illustrator) (grades K-3)
- [Youth in Action](#) by Candace Dipsey, Jaime Joyce, Shay Maunz, Brian S. McGrath, Karena Phan, and Allison Singer, *Time for Kids*, 10/18/2019 (grades 4-5)

#### *Middle and high school recommendations*

- [This is Your Life on Climate Change](#) by Robinson Meyer, *The Atlantic*, 1/15/20 (grades 7-12)
- [As Rising Heat Bakes U.S. Cities, The Poor Often Feel It Most](#) by Meg Anderson and Sean McMinn, *NPR*, 9/3/19 (grades 8-12)
- [9 Teen Climate Activists Fighting for the Future of the Planet](#) by Marilyn La Jeunesse, *Teen Vogue*, 7/24/19 (grades 8-12)
- [How to Become an Activist](#) by Jamie Margolin, *Teen Vogue*, 4/20/20 (grades 8-12)

- King County climate action initiatives and opportunities for action (middle and high school)
  - King County [2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan Update](#)
  - [Climate change initiatives and programs](#) led by King County
  - [Climate change impacts in King County](#) and [Act on Climate Change: What you can do](#)
  - [Climate change graphics](#) – includes climate actions individuals and communities can take

### Video recommendations

- [Climate change: Earth's giant game of Tetris](#) and [I'm only a kid, I can't do anything about climate change.... right?](#) (grades 3-5). The first video explains climate change and the second focuses on what kids can do no matter their age.
- [David and Greta in Conversation: The Planetary Crisis](#) (grades 4-12): This video includes perspectives of 17-year old Greta Thunberg and 94-year old Sir David Attenborough.
- [Facing Climate Change: Plateau Tribes](#) (high school and middle school): The Umatilla Tribe in northeastern Oregon faces the challenge of protecting natural and cultural resources in the face of a warming world.
- [No One is Disposable](#) (middle and high school): A video from [Youth v. Apocalypse](#), a student-led network of youth climate activists working to lift the voices of youth, in particular youth of color, to fight for a livable climate and an equitable and sustainable world.

### Activities

- [Youth Climate Action Day](#) (secondary school students). The 2021 Youth Climate Action Day is October 23.
- [Energy Bingo](#) (grades 3-5): Play this game to teach students ways they can save energy at home.
- **Carbon Footprint Calculator** (grades 4-12): Have students calculate their carbon footprint using either the basic or advanced version of the [International Student Carbon Footprint Challenge](#). The [Global Footprint Network](#) has a shorter ecological footprint calculator that includes a carbon footprint and can be used for younger students or when less time is available. Students can discuss actions to reduce their carbon footprint. This can be paired with discussion questions from an [energy footprint lesson plan](#).
- **Youth Brainstorming Activity** (grades 3-12): Ask students to brainstorm actions they want to take in their communities to address climate change. Use the context articles and videos on page 1 to invite students to learn about youth climate change leaders. For middle and high school students, we recommend the “How to become an activist” article.
- [Use Art to Engage](#) (all grades): Check out lessons that connect student-made art and climate change. Lessons can be adapted by sharing links rather than printouts. Students can share art through online platforms. Also see [Visible Thinking to Guide Discussion about Climate Change](#).