Art Literacy
by: Marina Sophia Flevotomas
climate change
Youth
Visual Handbook
Acknowledgement

Gratitude

Thank you

BRITISH COUNCIL

for supporting Art Literacy: Climate Change Youth!
Thank you for supporting global youth initiatives
by providing trainings, knowledge, experience and
nurturing creativity.

Pulpo Productions: Art Literacy can be found at:

Climate4Classrooms (C4C),
climate4classrooms.org

360
360.org

Art Literacy facebook
facebook.com/ArtLiteracy

Please do not alter any visuals or text
without consent from the artist. Please
do not use this handbook for profit purposes.

This handbook is free.
Contents

1. Think About It
2. What is Climate Change?
3. Earth
4. Recipe Book Climate Change
5. Fossil Fuels
6. Pollution
7. Polar Regions
8. Resources
9. Oceans and Waste
10. Deforestation
11. Severe Weather
12. Drought
13. Water Shortage and Food Security
14. War
15. Inequality
16. Root Causes
17. Gap
18. Cutting Ties
19. Rio +20
20. Speaking UP
21. Speech
22. Get It Done
23. What would you say?
24. Filling the Gap
25. You are here
26. Recipe Book Solutions
27. Change Instigator
28. Ripples
29. Tree Planting
30. Renewable Energy
31. Reduce Reuse Recycle
32. Creativity
33. Square Free
34. Life
35. Have you ever
36. Any Great Person
37. Contributions
38. Marathon
39. Collective Action
40. Challenge
41. To You
Think About It

What fill the pages ahead are images and words to make you think and ...

feel
imagine
learn
share
collaborate

inspire
empower

connect
care

act

encourage

Enter with an open mind.
Question, discover and discuss.
What is climate change?

The sun gives the earth heat.

This heat is trapped in the atmosphere by carbon dioxide (CO2) which is called the Greenhouse Effect.

We need some heat in the atmosphere in order to keep the earth warm enough for us to exist here.

The problem is that human activities are also adding carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. This CO2 comes from activities like flying airplanes, driving cars or heating our homes - burning fossil fuels...

When there is an increase in CO2, too much heat is trapped in the atmosphere making the earth warmer. This is called global warming.

The consequences are climate change events like rising temperatures, melting sea ice, sea level rise and an increase in severe weather events like storms, drought and floods.

Climate change can affect entire ecosystems, wildlife, food and water supplies, oceans and plant life...

Let's take a closer look at some of the impacts climate change is having and of course we have to look at some solutions to these problems...
Earth has existed for billions of years.

Earth is a fascinating planet.

What is Earth to you?

Earth is a patient teacher.

Humans and nature are undeniably interconnected.

We depend on Earth for our needs to survive like food, air and water.

Everything is interconnected.

When the Earth is unhealthy so are we.

Right now, Earth is not feeling very healthy.

What makes Earth unhealthy?
Imagine a Recipe Cookbook about Earth.

People are adding harmful ingredients to the planet which are having negative impacts!

**Climate Change Recipe**

- Fossil Fuels
- Waste
- Deforestation
- Pollution
- Deplete Earth's Resources
- War
- Large dose of CO₂ for Global Warming

**Can you name some more ingredients for the Climate Change Recipe?**

- Turn up the heat for unsafe results!

Cooking Time: Just a few years!
Serves all life

These damaging ingredients are having wounding consequences.

Let's take a closer look at what is happening and what we can do to turn down the heat...
Fossil Fuels

Oil
Petroleum
Oil Sand (Tar Sand)
Natural Gas
Coal

Fossil Fuels are **non-renewable resources** because consumption is faster than the formation of new fossil fuels which take millions of years to form.
The combustion of fossil fuels contributes to air and water pollution and greenhouse gases.

Methods used to extract fossil fuels are harmful to the environment and inhabitants. Oil spills and land degradation have detrimental and long-term consequences.
Every little action triggers a reaction...

Human use of Fossil Fuels contributes to the excess of greenhouse gases causing global warming.

The Polar Regions, the Arctic and Antarctica are experiencing rapid changes like glacier melting and polar sea ice loss. These consequences affect entire species, like Polar Bears. It has become more difficult for Polar Bears to hunt for food and store enough energy to survive hibernation without starving. Polar Bears and other species depend on the snow and ice for survival.

When one plant or animal is affected, it causes a ripple effect of events disrupting food chains and changing entire ecosystems. Changes are also impacting the lives of indigenous communities in the Arctic Regions.

Global warming in the Polar Regions is also causing sea-level rise, threatening populations which live in coastal areas and islands. Some small island nations are already approaching possibilities to relocate.
Look around you. Are you in a room? Sitting in a chair? Looking at a computer? What are you wearing?

Everything comes from somewhere.
The material that surrounds us comes from resources. Resources come from the environment.

Everything comes from somewhere, created from something found in the environment.

We are depleting Earth's resources.
Everything that comes from somewhere must go somewhere too.

Waste is a big contribution to greenhouse gases.

Waste contaminates the water, land and air – Affecting species, ecosystems and us.

The Oceans are suffering. Waste and pollution fill the waters. Sea-life is threatened.

Have you ever wondered where all the waste ends up? From garbage to nuclear and toxic waste.

Some of it goes into the soil where the food, which we eat grows. Some of it runs off into the water which we drink and some of it ends up in the air that we breathe.

We need to stop creating so much waste. We also need to stop being wasteful with resources like food and water.

We need to reduce all this waste.
Deforestation

Cutting down entire forests without planting new trees.

contributes to global warming

Species face extinction

Communities are being displaced

Trees absorb CO₂

Trees produce oxygen

Brazil

If trees bled, the earth would be red.

Jacqueline Yochim
There is an increase in severe weather events. These extremes include floods, hurricanes, heat waves, wildfires, tornados and more...
Drought has detrimental impacts on the environment resulting in consequences for our food and water supplies. Drought is devastating for people, livestock and the land. Because of drought, people cannot grow food to feed themselves, their families or their animals; let alone acquire an income from a failed harvest.

Drought triggers mass migration and causes displacement. Drought causes malnutrition, dehydration and diseases. Drought triggers conflict over resources like water.
Millions of people lack access to safe water. What can we do to change this problem? Where does your water come from? Do you conserve water?

Do you know where your food comes from? Is it local? Is it genetically modified? Why would any species disrupt the source of its own nourishment, its very survival?

- Francis Moure Lappe
"Is this the world we want to live in?
Is this sustainable?
Is this the way to tackle
global warming?

Civilization lacks any sense of solidarity, it's all competition, exploitation and where things cannot be grabbed: war. Bombs all over Africa. Bombs in the Middle East. Bombs everywhere.
You are not strangers to war in your own country. Why do we fight?
And as long as we continue fighting, resources continue to be expropriated."

Nevine Bourey (Peit)
Climate Change highlights inequality.

Those least responsible for creating the climate change challenge are those who are most affected by the unfolding consequences.

This includes developing countries, small island states, indigenous communities, impoverished communities and vulnerable people especially women and children.

There are millions of environmental migrants. People have to leave their homes and are forced to migrate because environmental changes in their local surroundings jeopardize their livelihood and survival.

What are their HUMAN RIGHTS?
Climate Change affects all life on earth. Everything is interconnected. We have to choose a sustainable lifestyle and conscious behavior for a habitable planet which future generations may enjoy.

Think climate change doesn't affect you? Think again...

We have to address the ROOT CAUSES.
Every year, leaders, negotiators, governments, youth and civil society from all over the world, meet at an important climate conference known as Conference of the Parties (COP) held by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

During this conference, people discuss the challenges of climate change, global warming and environmental impacts. They try to agree upon solutions to reduce those unhealthy ingredients that are causing many problems.

In 2011, COP 17 took place in Durban, South Africa. The Durban climate talks did not reach a legally binding international agreement to reduce global carbon emission.

Instead, the Durban climate talks delayed a crucial agreement until 2020! This leaves a

**LARGE GAP**

of inaction and allows for global temperatures to continue to rise!
Can we cut ties with Fossil Fuels?
What is your country’s carbon footprint?

Climate talks are very important because we need a Legally Binding International Agreement to reduce carbon emissions. We need this agreement now.

Educate yourself and others. Find out what is happening at the International and National level.

Get involved!
The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) - held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 - was a 20-year follow up to the 1992 Earth Summit with the objectives to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assess the progress and implementation gaps in meeting previous commitments and addressing new and emerging challenges. The conference was also supposed to focus on Green Economy within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication as well as institutional framework for sustainable development.

"A meeting like this is doomed to FAIL, because we haven’t left our vested interests outside the door and come together a a single species and agreed what the fundamental needs are for all of humanity. So we’re going to sacrifice the air, the water, the biodiversity, all in the sake of human and economic interest.” - David Suzuki

interview with Democracy Now!

SUSTAINABILITY MUST BECOME THE NORM NOT THE EXCEPTION.
There are a lot of people who are worried about climate change. They are taking action and speaking up. Like Anjali

In Durban at the Climate talks, Anjali spoke on behalf of the Youth (YOUNGO)

Here is what she had to say...
"I speak for more than half the world’s population. We are the silent majority. You’ve given us a seat in this hall, but our interests are not on the table. What does it take to get a stake in this game? Lobbyist? Corporate Influence? Money? You’ve been negotiating all my life. In that time, you’ve failed to meet pledges, you’ve missed targets, and you’ve broken promises. But you’ve heard this all before.

We’re in Africa, home to communities on the front line of climate change. The world’s poorest countries need funding for adaptation now. The Horn of Africa and those in nearby Kwa Mashu needed it yesterday. But as 2012 dawns, our Green Climate Fund remains empty. The International Energy Agency tells us we have five years until the window to avoid irreversible climate change closes. The science tells us that we have five years maximum. You’re saying, “Give us 10.”

The most stark betrayal of your generation’s responsibility to ours is that you call this “ambition.” Where is the courage in these rooms? Now is not the time for incremental action. In the long run, these will be seen as the defining moments of an era in which narrow self-interest prevailed over science, reason and common compassion.

There is real ambition in this room, but it’s been dismissed as radical, deemed not politically possible. Stand with Africa. Long-term thinking is not radical. What’s radical is to completely alter the planet’s climate, to betray the future of my generation, and to condemn millions to death by climate change. What’s radical is to write off the fact that change is within our reach. 2011 was the year in which the silent majority found their voice, the year when the bottom shook the top. 2011 was the year when the radical became reality.

Common, but differentiated, and historical responsibility are not up for debate. Respect the foundational principles of this convention. Respect the integral values of humanity. Respect the future of your descendants. Mandela said, “It always seems impossible, until it’s done.” So, distinguished delegates and governments around the world, governments of the developed world, deep cuts now. Get it done.”

-Anjali Appadurai
I speak for more than half the world’s population. We are the silent majority.

You’ve given us a seat in this hall, but our interests are not on the table.

What does it take to get a stake in this game? Lobbyists, Corporate Influence?

Money? You’ve been negotiating all my life. In that time, you’ve failed to meet

pledges, you’ve missed targets, and you’ve broken promises. But you’ve heard

this all before. 🌍 We’re in Africa, home to communities on the frontline of

climate change. The world’s poorest countries need funding for adaptation now.

The hope of Africa and those nearby in KwaMashu needed it yesterday. But

as 2012 dawns, our Green Climate Fund remains empty. The International Energy

Agency tells us we have five years until the window to avoid irreversible

climate change closes.

The science tells us we have years to say no, to resist.

― Anjali Appadurai, Get it Done, Durban, 2011
If you were given the chance to address the entire world: politicians, teachers, farmers doctors, students, children - all people -

What would you say?

What would you ask the world to do?
If our leaders won't lead and do what is urgently needed, then all of us have to roll up our sleeves and

FILL THIS GAP

with our bright and sustainable ideas!

Your innovative ideas can help bridge the gap and send a clear message to world leaders:

We cannot wait to make the right decisions - 2020 is too late.

We have to act now!
“Look again at that dot. That’s here. That’s home. That’s us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives. The aggregate of our joy and suffering, thousands of confident religions, ideologies, and economic doctrines, every hunter and forager, every hero and coward, every creator and destroyer of civilization, every king and peasant, every young couple in love, every mother and father, hopeful child, inventor and explorer, every teacher of morals, every corrupt politician, every “superstar,” every “supreme leader,” every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there -- on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam.”

-- Carl Sagen
Imagine a

Solution Recipe Cookbook

for all of us

How can we eliminate those harmful ingredients and add healthy, sustainable ingredients...

Solution Recipe

collective action
local and global organizing
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
Ride your bicycle
Green Jobs
Equity
Human Rights
Reforestation

Can you name some more healthy ingredients?

Turn down the heat!

It is our responsibility to do all that we can to confront the climate crisis so that our children may live on a beautiful, safe, healthy planet.

©MSF
So far, we’ve just scratched the surface of very deep-rooted issues and there are many more impacts of climate change that have not been mentioned here. There are also many more solutions.

Climate change is a global challenge that can be confronted with local solutions which amount to positive change.

Who do you want to be for others and for the world?

Who has influenced you? Was it a teacher? A friend? A mentor or a particular experience?
We were not always the person we are today. What shaped us are the experiences we’ve made and the people we’ve met. Think about a person who has changed you. What was it about them that had such an impact on you? What qualities did they have? Patience? Knowledge? Kindness? What experience did you make that changed you? What was it that made a strong impression on you?

Collect your strengths and contribute your skills to the world. We all have something to give.

Youth play an important role in influencing global issues. Mobilize. Use your influential and inspiring skills to create change. Be an instigator of local solutions and global solidarity.
“Example isn't another way to teach, it is the only way to teach.”

-a.einstein.

Now that you know what the harmful human induced impacts contributing to climate change are, make efforts to reduce your carbon footprint and practice a sustainable, conscious and environmentally friendly lifestyle. Your actions will speak volumes. Every action creates a ripple that travels far beyond our own imagination.
“It's the little things citizens do. That's what will make the difference. My little thing is planting trees.” – Wangari Maathai

Every tree gives life. Reforestation. Support Tree Planting initiatives.
Renewable Energy

Pros: replenishes itself. clean energy. no oil spills. no nuclear risks. no digging deep in the ground. decrease carbon dioxide emission, creates local jobs, creates green jobs, healthier...

What other pros does renewable clean energy have?
Do you trash your house? Don't trash our home.

Earth is our home. Keep it clean.
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
Stop harmful and poisonous waste from ending up in the soil, water and air.

©MSF
Awareness.
Educate yourself and others.
Use performing arts or visual arts to reach out to your family, community, county and the world.

Art has an emotional power. It breaks the language barrier and builds bridges to connect, educate and influence people everywhere.

Get busy. Be innovative. Be creative.


"Without music, life would be an error." — Nietzsche
We all need some 'square free' days.

Turn off your gadgets and Turn on your LIFE

TV - Computer - i-whatevers phones - laptop - ...etc...

Sure, gadgets are fun to use - especially when they connect you to social media sites. In fact, social media is a very useful tool to raise awareness and keep up with what's happening around the world.

HOWEVER...

Don't overdose on gadgets and depend on them to replace our needs and relationships with people and nature. We should not neglect the beauty that surrounds us. Face-to-face conversations. Human Connections. Being in nature. Enjoying the outdoors. Building local community relationships. Investing time, energy and love in friends and family.

After all, we are made of stories. Everyone has a story to share...

“If you give what you don’t need, it’s not giving.”

-M. Teresa

Give love. attention. respect. compassion. care. smile. hope. laughter. time. patience. strength.
LIFE

What can you give?

What is your story?
Learning is a never-ending process.

Have you ever felt like you were not qualified to let your voice be heard because you did not know everything about the issue important to you?

Maybe you were worried about what others might think – about being judged or confronted with a debate. Maybe you think you can only talk about a cause when you know everything about it...

Don’t be silenced by intimidation. It’s time to put doubts and fears aside. You do not have to be a scientist to advocate for actions confronting climate change. When you truly care about something that is very important to you, it’s time to ask critical questions, to step up, speak out and act...

“None but ourselves can free our minds.”

-bob marley
Any great person who has every fought for human rights, justice, peace, love, equality, environment, life, like Mother Teresa, Wangari Maathai, Martin Luther King, Gandhi, Aung San Suu Kyi or Nelson Mandela, were people who were loved, respected and admired by many -- but they were also challenged by the doubters. As a matter of fact, there were some people who really did not like these extraordinary people.

You see, speaking up or taking action on an important cause that you care about -- is not always easy. It can be hard with many obstacles and hurdles but also bridges and support. Through it all, your actions, ambitions and voice will be amplified through the lives and hearts you will influence.

- Being You -

courageous enough to ask the tough questions and sharing your innovative, creative, important ideas is brave! Don't worry about the doubters, the challengers, those who think you don't have the right to speak or act! Your courage is needed. Your optimism is needed. Horizontal collective non-violent action is needed. Patience, hope, motivating and momentous action is needed.

You are needed and you matter.

"First they ignore you. Then they laugh at you. Then they fight you. Then you win."

-Gandhi
"...It's not giving your life, but the rest of your life.

...The struggle for justice - environmental justice, climate justice, social justice, gender justice... - these struggles are marathons...

...The biggest contribution that any one of us can make is to have perseverance, to have courage, to have stamina and not to be - ever - tempted to believe that our contributions and your individual contributions does not make a difference...

...The biggest contribution that any one of us can make, is to maintain a lifetime of involvement and commitment until these struggles are won...

So my appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, when you hit your moments of frustration, when you hit your moments of doubt, just remember that this world would be a much more pessimistic place were it not for each and every one of your contributions to working to secure a better planet, a safer planet, a more just planet and a more equitable planet so that our children and grandchildren can live in peace and prosperity."

-Kumi Naidoo, Greenpeace International Conference of Youth, Durban, South Africa
There are people in every country engaged in social and environmental justice campaigns and movements.

There are dedicated global initiatives and inspiring local actions.

Look around you and you will find that a lot of people have joined the marathon. We are all in this together.

Join the marathon
The ocean is made of single drops.

The beehive is a collective collaboration.

Momentous Collective Action is made up of individuals. Mobilize.

You are important.
Here is a little challenge for you. Create your book of action, solutions and changes. Write down ideas, thoughts and plans.

What will your contribution be?

What do you want to learn more about?
Which issue are you concerned about?
What local initiatives are happening in your community? What initiatives can you start?
What is happening in the global climate arena? How will you be involved?
What creative means can you use?
To You,

We are all accountable for our behaviour and our impacts every day. We have to make good choices, be responsible and lead by example. Our life - our peace, love and happiness - should not come from another person or being's suffering. Our necessities should not have to be compromised by war, conflict or harming the earth. Our actions travel far beyond our imagination. When we make irresponsible or selfish choices, we may be affecting someone's life or the environment. When we make sustainable and healthy choices, we are inevitably sharing a bit of our peace, love and happiness with others.

Addressing climate change means being responsible for our actions and impacts. Moreover, it means recognizing that we are all interconnected and depend on each other, the earth and the life we coexist with. Simple actions matter. When we contribute - add healthy ingredients to the solutions - we are caring about the present and the future of life. Continue learning. Raise awareness. Solidarity. Live by example. Transform your ideas into reality by taking action. Change begins with us...

“Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world.”

-Howard Zinn

From Me.