

# Climate Change Resources for Teachers



Yola Mgwana, young climate activist © Beautiful News South Africa

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Climate Change is not just an **environmental** issue. It is a complex challenge which intersects with **social justice** issues such as global inequality, peace and conflict, migration, colonialism and racism.

This **resource** is designed to help teachers navigate the many options for supporting learners to explore the issues and work together to bring about **positive change**. It is our pick of the very best **Global Citizenship** resources on climate change.

All the resources here are accessible online via the linked titles and images. CfE Levels 2/3/4/+ are **in red**.

## Background Reading:

**“** You are not helping the planet, you are not helping nature, you are the planet, you are nature, you are helping yourself.  
Bangambiki Habyarimana, The Great Pearl of Wisdom

Learn about [talking to young people about climate change](#) and [moving from climate anxiety to meaningful action](#).

**“** Racism is endemic to global inequality. This means that those most affected - and killed - by climate change are Black and poor people.  
Patrisse Cullors / Nyeusi Nguvu Black Lives Matter movement

Hear more about [climate and racism](#) from David Lammy and [whitewashing of environmental activism](#) from Intercultural Youth Scotland.

**“** We cannot go back to the old normal of inequality, injustice and heedless dominion over the Earth. Instead we must step towards a safer, more sustainable and equitable path. The door is open; the solutions are there. Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary-General

Read the [5 things you need to know about carbon inequality](#) or watch this [1.5 minute clip](#) showing the UK's contribution to global carbon inequality.

**Climate facts or climate fiction?**

# 1. Climate Curricula

## Climate Curriculum

ThoughtBox **Levels: All**

A comprehensive climate crisis curriculum to empower the climate strike generation.

Schemes of work, lesson plans, all resources, teacher guide and parent packs are differentiated for **all ages from 5-18**. Simply register as an individual member and then go to 'Free Resources' to access.



## Climate Challenge

Oxfam

**Levels: 2/3/4**

These full units of work focus on the human impact of the climate crisis: how communities around the world are being affected by climate change and how people are responding and adapting to these challenges. Units include lesson plans and all necessary resources, and cover **English, Science and Geography Es & Os**.

There are two versions, one for ages 7-11 and another for ages 11-14.



## Climate Change Curricula

Leeds DEC **Levels: 3/4/+**

Great lesson plans and resources for a climate curriculum in Maths, Social Subjects, Science & Modern Languages. You will need to register.



“ We’ve all heard the millions of young voices speaking up for the future of their planet. As educators it is our responsibility to step forward. It’s time to talk about climate change.”

from ThoughtBox, 'Climate Curriculum'

## Shaping our Future

WWF

**Levels: 2/3/4**

Classroom resources for both primary and secondary, looking at subject areas from 'What is Climate Change' to 'Envisaging the Future'. Resources include presentations, teacher notes and worksheets, in PDF format. Further teaching resources for a six week enquiry are available through their [Climate Action Project](#).



© from WWF resource

## Climate Breakdown: do we have 12 years to stop irreversible climate change?

Paul Turner **Levels: 3/4/+**

Written by a practising school teacher, these resources are the world's first Climate Breakdown scheme of work. **14 lessons** to explore the most up-to-date science and broad societal questions around climate change.



## 2. STEM Resources

### Fumes or Futures

Christian Aid **Levels: 2/3**

'Fumes or Futures' is a **game-based** resource pack looking at climate change and the need to embrace clean energy. It includes a downloadable Snakes and Ladders game, an engaging 'chatterbox' set of paper-folding discussion games and assembly ideas.



© Fumes or Futures A4 poster

### Which Energy for the Future?

RISC **Levels: 2/3/4**

An excellent resource to assess learners' viewpoints on energy. This activity can be undertaken at the beginning and the end of a climate change or energy topic to evidence changes in pupil understanding or values.



### Beat the Flood

Practical Action **Levels: 2/3/4**

'Beat the Flood' enables pupils to consider the global impacts of flooding caused by climate change, then to design and build a model on the fictitious island of Watu. One of a number of great STEM resources from Practical Action around climate change.



**“ A typical summer barbeque for 4 people releases more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere than an 80 mile car journey. ”**  
from 'Issue to Action: Cows or Cars'

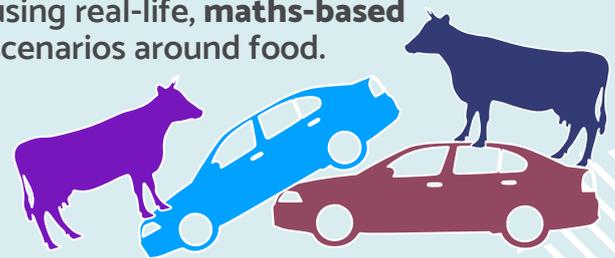
Learn more about the **science** of the climate emergency

To look at the carbon footprint of everyday foods check out this **online tool**

### Issue to Action: Cows or Cars?

Scotdec **Levels: 3/4**

Explore how we can make choices to change our carbon footprint, using real-life, **maths-based** scenarios around food.



### Climate Science Resource Pack

CREST Awards **Levels: 3/4/+**

A project-based resource which can lead to a CREST award. Participants receive research and design briefs on topics such as 'greener cities' and 'water scarcity' and have to design climate-friendly sustainable solutions. **30+ hours** of work is required for a Silver Award.



## 3. Social Subjects & Literacy

### Stories of Climate Change

Oxfam **Levels: 2/3/4**

A set of activity ideas, with all necessary resources, to explore **real life stories** from Malawi where the impact of climate change is already being felt.



### Window on the World

Christian Aid  
**Levels: 2/3/4**

This resource aims to introduce pupils to the topic of **climate justice** in a global context. Using photographs and stories, pupils can investigate how the climate is changing, what the impacts are and how Christian Aid is working with people to improve their lives.



### Model COP Climate Negotiation

Royal Meteorological Society  
**Levels: 2/3/4**

An award-winning climate change **negotiation activity** which allows teachers and classes to simulate a climate conference. The resource includes lesson plans, presentation materials and clips to facilitate the learning.



### Climate Realities: Climate Change and Digital Storytelling

Third Generation Project

**Levels: 3/4**

This English resource helps develop critical literacy and storytelling skills. Learners compare and contrast stories



of people impacted by climate change in Somaliland and Kenya and how they are, or could be, represented in the media.

### Thank You for the Rain

Doc Academy **Levels: 3/4/+**



Curated film clips of a documentary about Kisulu, Kenyan farmer-turned climate activist. Detailed lesson plans for English & Geography, with BGE and senior phase versions, plus a 'call to action' toolkit. You will need to register (for free) with Into Film to access, then search for 'Thank You for the Rain'.

“ In a good year, when the rains are good, I can sometimes harvest up to 15 bags of maize. Last year, due to the drastic change of climate and very little rain, I only managed to harvest one bag. My family and I had never before been as hungry as we were then. *Patouma, farmer in Malawi* ”

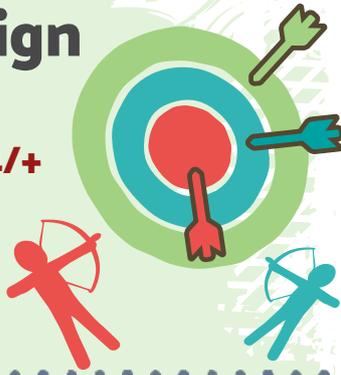
## 4. Taking Action

A key part of Global Citizenship education is supporting young people to think **critically** about how they can respond to complex global issues. In an increasingly uncertain world, it is important that children and young people have opportunities to create **hope** by taking part in action towards a positive future. Supporting **pupil-led action** is a fantastic way to develop the knowledge, skills and values of active Global Citizenship.

### Your Campaign for Change

Scotdec **Levels: 2/3/4/+**

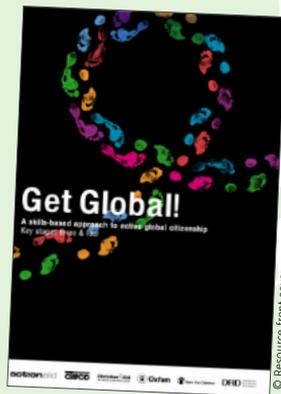
This step-by-step guide supports young people to organise a campaign for **positive change**.



### Get Global

Oxfam **Levels: 3/4/+**

This resource is packed with activities and lesson ideas that provide a structure for active and participatory learning and action on global issues.



### Environmentally Conscious

**Levels: 3/4/+**

Our daily behaviour is responsible for almost half of all carbon emissions. This easy to use website focuses on **behaviour change** with lots of simple ideas for lowering our carbon footprint.



“The climate crisis has already been solved. We already have all the facts and solutions. All we have to do is to wake up and change.”

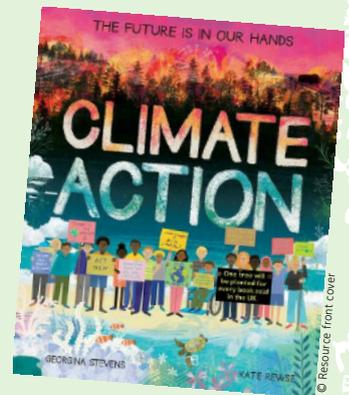
Greta Thunberg

**Results** from the 2018 PISA test for Scotland show that knowledge of global issues and positive attitudes don't always translate into pupil action. 

### Climate Action

Georgina Stevens & Katie Rewse  
**Levels: 1/2/3**

One for the school library? A brilliantly accessible new book for children on the causes and impacts of climate change; inspirational positive stories from young changemakers around the globe and practical ideas for taking action.



### Turning Learning into Action

World's Largest Lesson  
**Levels: 2/3/4**

Community mapping for the Global Goals. Suggested resources for taking learners on a walk through their community with a focus on the **Sustainable Development Goals**, and then helping them turn their ideas for change into positive actions.

