

CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

FOR YOUTH PRACTITIONERS

HANDBOOK #1 - CLIMATE CHANGE

GROUNDWORK
CHANGING PLACES
CHANGING LIVES



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CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

CLIMATE CHANGE HANDBOOK FOR PRACTITIONERS

This document is 1 of 3 handbooks in **Groundwork's Climate Leadership** series. This handbook will introduce you to the theory behind climate change and provide links to session plans and online content which you can use with your young people.

Climate change feels big, complicated and far away. But you don't need to be a scientist or expert to understand it. As a matter of fact, you **ARE** already an expert, you might not have connected the dots yet. And this handbook helps you with it!

It presents an overview of what climate change is, how it affects us and what we can do about it. And most importantly, it makes it relatable to something we all care about: Improving our future!

INTRODUCTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Everyone has heard about climate change, but no one really exactly knows what it is and how it works. This session aims to change that! It provides a basic overview of climate change:

What is it, and what are Greenhouse gases?

How do fossil fuels cause climate change?

How do we contribute to it in our daily lives?

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LOCAL VS. GLOBAL

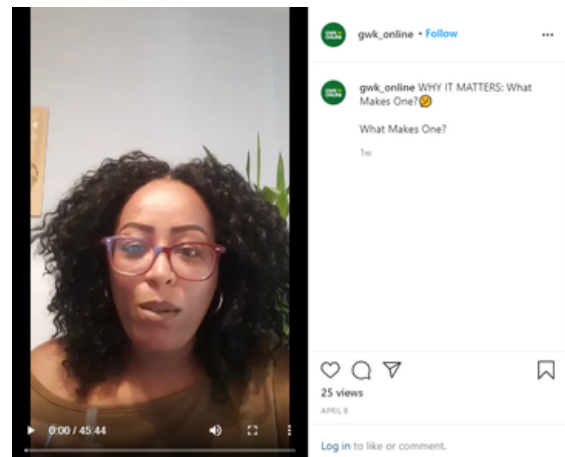
How does climate change affect our daily lives - both in the UK and globally?

This session looks at the implications of climate change on a global scale, and talks specifically about climate migration.

Based on a video on climate refugees, students will then discuss whether there is a moral responsibility of countries in the Global North to reduce their carbon emissions.

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FOOD WASTE

About 1/3 of all food globally is thrown away. In the UK, that's 6.7 million tons of food every year! Food waste contributes significantly to climate change due to the energy used to grow, transport and package food.

If food waste was a country, it would emit more emissions than every other country on earth, apart from the US and China.

This session looks at the causes of food waste and explores alternatives in the local area.

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LITTER & PLASTIC

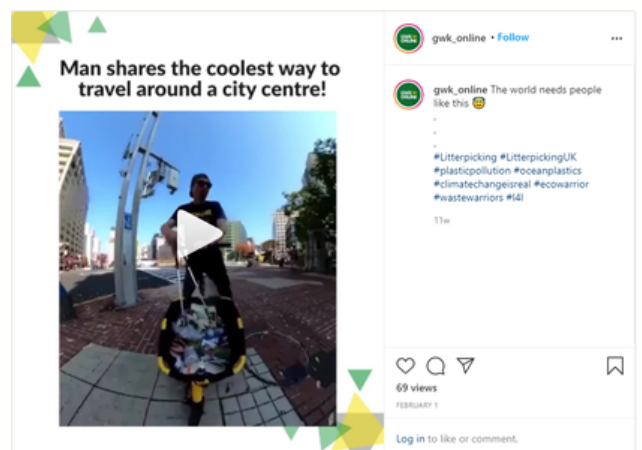
We produce about 100 million tonnes of plastic each year. Most of which is single use plastic which will end up in landfill or polluting our oceans and landscapes.

By 2050, when plastic production is expected to have tripled, plastic will be responsible for up to 13% of our planet's total carbon emissions.

This session looks at the impacts of plastic waste on our planet and individual choices we can make to reduce it.

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MENTAL HEALTH & GREENSPACES

Greenspaces play a vital role in every city's ecosystem, from keeping heatwaves at bay to mopping up floods. Greenspaces also play a vital role in citizen's mental health.

This session aims to foster connection between young people and their local greenspaces, to show the link between greenspaces and drug use, crime and depression.

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CLIMATE JUSTICE IN GREATER MANCHESTER

50% of the global CO2 emissions are emitted by just 10% of the population, however the effects are disproportionately felt by low contributing countries in the Global South.

Access to clean air, greenspaces, good housing and public transportation is disproportionately divided in the UK too, along the lines of class, race, and gender.

This session introduces the term Climate Justice to present a framework for the ongoing challenges our communities face.

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IMAGINING COMMUNITIES

Tackling climate change means reducing 95% of our current CO2 emissions within the next 20 years. That means we need a profound transformation in the way we all live, eat and sleep.

These next 3 sessions aim to inspire young people to be future leaders. It aims at creating a vision for carbon-free future Manchester. It draws from existing and planned utopias from across the world and asks young people to re-create Manchester from 3 different angles: Housing, greenspaces and wellbeing; travel and transportation: and food and nutrition.

"If you can imagine it, you can achieve it"

William Arthur Ward - motivational writer

IMAGINING COMMUNITIES

HOUSING, GREENSPACE & WELLBEING

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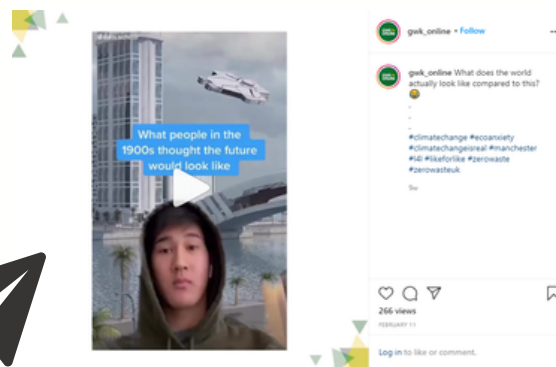
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TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION

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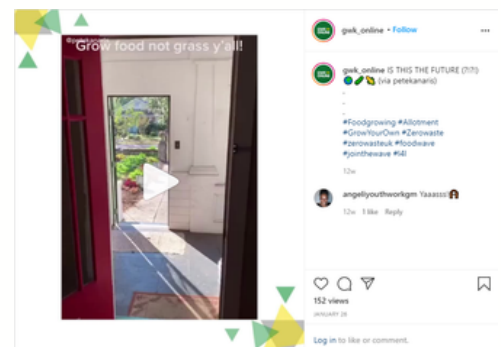
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FOOD & NUTRITION

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KEY TAKEAWAYS

Draw from the knowledge that already exists!

Most young people have heard about it or already know something about climate change.

Bring it close to home.

How was the climate in your childhood? How is it now?

Start with small things that improve people's lives.

For example, tackling food waste can help to save money, cycling can have improve physical and mental health benefit. Both simultaneously help to prevent climate change.

Find a trusted messenger around climate change!

Someone that young people trust, for example a celebrity or a young influencer.

Focus on the positive and empower young people to imagine a different society!
