A Climate Justice Learning Journey

This learning journey highlights opportunities for pupils to learn about climate justice. Intended to be a flexible learning programme, select from the following suggestions and adapt as appropriate to your context.

1. Celebrate Harvest!

How will you celebrate Harvest in school this year? For climate justice resources look at our Harvest themed ‘Drink from the well’ assembly.

2. Great Big Green Week

The Great Big Green Week will take place 18 – 26 September 2021. This will be the largest event for climate and nature ever seen in the UK. Thousands of events will celebrate how communities are taking action to tackle climate change and protect green spaces. Find out how your school can get involved.

3. Expand your learning!

COP 26: Together for our Planet

Use the COP26 schools pack: ‘Our Climate Our Future’ to think about climate justice in the weeks before COP 26. Get involved in discussions and practical activities or run your own mini climate summit in school and create a Climate Action Plan.

4. Pause, reflect, pray

- Follow the progress of the YCCN relay [Young Christian Climate Network] from Cornwall to Glasgow.
- Create your own ship with messages about climate justice and manifestos for change on the mast and sails. Display these in your local community. For ideas see here.
- Learn about pilgrimage. Design a labyrinth to help ‘walkers’ reflect on the theme of creation/nature or create a ‘pilgrimage walk’ from school to your church. Take your pupils/sail on your pilgrimage walk and have a climate-themed reflection time in the church building.
- Create your own reflection or prayer walk in school.

Use the Prayer Chain resources from Christian Aid to help develop your ideas. These include ideas for children and families.

5. Act, create, share

- Who are your local and national decision makers? Write to one of them about the issue of climate justice.
- Include your climate justice messages via the Virtual Climate March.
- School leaders: Consider joining the Let’s Go Zero campaign.

6. COP 26

Glasgow, 31 October – 12 November 2021

COP 26 stands for the 26th Conference of the Parties. This is an important summit where world leaders meet with scientists, campaigners, activists and other experts to discuss actions that should be taken in the face of the climate crisis.

Friday 5 November  #PromiseToThePlanet

Help us plant ‘a virtual forest’ of promises to grow a sustainable future. Bring your community together to learn more about COP and climate change and hear the concerns and hopes of children and young people. Find out more here.

7. Expand your learning

Our learning journey doesn’t end here! This is just the beginning of many opportunities for pupils to share their thoughts and aspirations for our future world.

8. Letters for Creation

Letters for Creation is a project that invites children and young people to reflect on climate justice and use their creative skills to answer an important question:

“If you could say something to the people in charge about looking after our planet, what would you say?”

Invite pupils to share their reflection through a ‘think piece’ or letter on the beauty of the natural world and the importance of climate justice. These letters could be in any form: written word, art, song, rap, poetry or prayer.

Together with the Church of England Environment Programme, we will share these reflections with decision-makers and with the wider church to make sure that young people’s voices are heard.

said.org.uk/lettersforcreation

9. Letters for Creation assembly

Introduce the Letters for Creation project with an assembly. Find more information here. This is an opportunity to consider and reflect on climate justice themed pieces of art created by children and young people from across the world.

Look out for key dates and events throughout the year to reflect on this theme further, like Earth Day on 22 April and World Environment Day on 5 June.

10. Learning resources

The Letters for Creation resource pack provides all the information you need to guide children through this experience.

- Use the Letters for Creation lesson plans to provide an opportunity to deepen young people’s learning about climate justice.
- Create a reflective space for pupils to think and talk about their learning and plan their creative response. See our Artist’s guide: ‘Caring Deeply, Dancing Freely’ for activity ideas.
- Implement young people’s plans to produce Letters for Creation to share locally, nationally and internationally. See our Impact Toolkit for inspiration.

11. Act, create, share

- Hold a Letters for Creation ‘exhibition’ to engage the wider community with the creative voices of children and young people around climate justice. Are there opportunities to share their creative letters in your local community? Remember to tell us about your event and send pictures!
- Plan an activity during Christian Aid Week (May 2022) to highlight the issues of climate justice and climate change, like a school information and fundraising event.
- Christian Aid will share examples of young people’s Letters for Creation projects with global church leaders during the Lambeth Conference in summer 2022.

12. Pause, reflect, pray

Use the ‘Drink from the well assembly’, ‘Looking back, looking forward’, to help pupils reflect on their learning. Ask why speaking up and taking action – courageous advocacy – is so important.

12. Pause, reflect, pray

Use the ‘Drink from the well assembly’, ‘Looking back, looking forward’, to help pupils reflect on their learning. Ask why speaking up and taking action – courageous advocacy – is so important.