

ACTIVATING CLIMATE CHANGE AGENTS IN THE CLASSROOM

Tackle misinformation and gain a new understanding of global warming to become a protector of the planet in the classroom, at home, and throughout the community.

3 COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

The planet's change in temperature is so small we don't really need to worry about it.

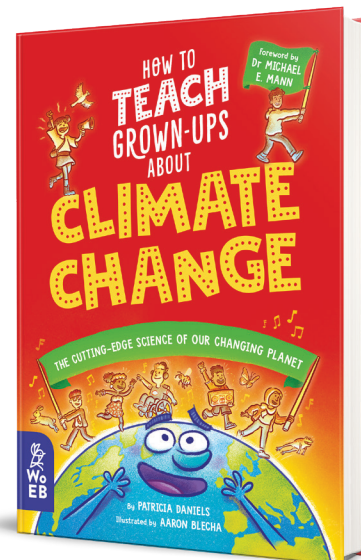
NOPE!

It's too late to do anything about it.

NOPE!

I'm only one person. What I do doesn't matter.

NOPE!



How to Teach Grown-Ups About Climate Change
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LET'S FORMULATE AND DELIVER AN ACTION PLAN!

After gaining knowledge and confidence in the subject, your students will be able to present their unique action plan, and persuade others of its value. In addition to posters, slide decks, and oral presentations, consider speeches, plays, and poetry as effective ways to get the word out. This book is packed with resources, facts, and the right amount of humor to get your students clamoring for ACTION!

3 STEPS TO ACTIVATION

Explore the Science

WOW!!

Review the Excuses

OUCH!

Create an Action Plan

BOOM!

PERSONAL CHOICES

Our choices matter! Making small, but important changes in our habits and households adds up to world-changing improvements. Use these two activities to get your students to consider what they can do to make a difference.

Create and Share a Personal Pledge Chart

I PLEDGE TO:

| Reconsider | Reduce | Reuse / Repurpose | Recycle |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| buying plastic water bottles | | | |
| | my food waste at home | | |
| | | my clothes | |
| | | | my school papers |

SHARE ME:

Who else could you ask to complete this chart?

Create and Collect Climate Success Badges

Provide materials for students to create badges for personal successes.

These can be awarded to themselves, family, and community members.

Examples:

- o I walked/biked/scooted to school!
- o I brought my own water bottle!
- o There is no single-use plastic in my lunchbox!
- o I planted a wildflower or pollinator garden!



GLOBAL PROGRESS

Our voice matters! Together we can encourage governments, businesses, and communities to make climate-friendly decisions from the top down.



Discourse and Debate



Learn about the various ways we currently generate energy. Divide students into groups and encourage discussions about the pros and cons of each type of energy: wind, solar, hydropower, natural gas, oil, coal, nuclear, and geothermal.

If time permits, set up a classroom or grade-band ENERGY DEBATE and allow a representative of each group to join a moderated debate panel.

Invite a local community member to act as moderator.

ACTIVATE! a schoolwide sustainability initiative

Ask students to create and submit a research-based proposal for a schoolwide movement using their new knowledge. Maybe it's a Meatless Monday campaign, a plant-based recipe swap, an afterschool thrift store to trade old clothing, or a gardening/tree planting work day.

Put all proposals to a vote and bring the winning climate change action plan to your school for implementation.

Don't forget to share the progress of your grassroots efforts with local news sources.