



Climate Change Climate Justice



Lesson

KS2 - ages 7-11

A short lesson plan guide for teachers is also available.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- To learn that climate change has an impact on communities around the world
- To find out about some of the ways The Salvation Army is fighting against climate change
- To consider ways of taking action to prevent climate change

RESOURCES

- PowerPoint presentation
- *Exploring photos activity sheet* - ideally enlarge to A3 - the themes are 1. drought, 2. floods, 3. wildfire, 4. storms/tornado/hurricanes
- *Exploring photos large images* (optional)
- *Climate change climate justice* video
- *Video key points*
- *Activity sheets*
- The song/video 'One Planet' by The Salvation Army (optional)

YOU WILL NEED

- If doing the *Hope poster* activity - string or lollipop sticks

STARTER

Slide 1: What's the link?

Ask pupils to discuss in talk partners if they can spot any links between all the images: places, weather, extreme temperatures, not pleasant, danger, change ... Use prompts if needed:

- What's missing?
- Why isn't a sunny beach or park included?

Gather their ideas and see if there are common themes.

Slide 2: Lesson objectives

Share the lesson objectives.



Climate anxiety affects many pupils and few report having positive conversations around it.

UPPFoundation.org

LET'S
CHANGE THIS!

Shorten the lesson:

Skip *Exploring photos* activity (slides 7-11).

Extend the lesson:

Select a few activities, perhaps as a carousel, and/or learn the song 'One Planet'.

INFO:

These are all examples of what is happening because of extreme weather: rising/falling temperatures, increasing rainfalls, storms, drought, melting icebergs, floods, increasing number of wildfires and tornadoes.

They are also examples of climate change.





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MAIN LESSON

Slide 3 - Climate change

Determine the class's understanding of climate change.

Ask:

- What is climate change?
- What does climate change look like?
- What is causing climate change?

Slide 4: UK examples

Ask pupils if they are aware of any examples of changes in the weather in the UK and Ireland.

Use images to support:

- **More warmer days** - traditionally colder months having warmer temperatures and increasing number of heatwaves in summer
- **Fewer colder days** - eg less frost, ice and snow and melting quicker
- **Spring starting earlier** - spring flowers, butterflies and bees emerging earlier
- **More rainfall** - muddier ground, increase in localised flooding
- **More storms** - stronger winds and increase in number of medium or high-impact storms (these are named in the news)

Slide 5: Global examples

This pattern is being repeated all around the world. Increasing temperatures are bringing drought, wildfires, storms, tornados and melting icebergs. Increasing rainfall is bringing flooding and causing landslides. This is affecting the people, animals and plants living in these areas.

Slide 6: The Salvation Army

Introduce The Salvation Army - a church and charity. Find out if pupils are familiar with any aspect of its work or faith. Explain that The Salvation Army is a worldwide Christian church, with churches in more than 130 countries. They work with communities, bringing practical help. It is an army fighting for fairness for all.

INFO:

Our environment is changing because of these intense weather patterns. Increasing/falling temperatures and levels of rainfall are changing the world we live in, where humans, animals and plants live, making it harder for us all to survive.



INFO:

In the UK, more warmer / fewer colder days are linked to climate change; it is inconclusive for the others.

Source: Metoffice.gov.uk



The Salvation Army salute:

Sometimes a Salvationist will point upwards, to indicate that any praise / acknowledgement of something good should be directed to God and not themselves.





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Slides 7-11: Exploring photos

The Salvation Army is in communities all around the world, working with people so they can live life to the full. Unfortunately, the most extreme effects of climate change most often happen in areas around the world where people are experiencing poverty.

Give an *Exploring photos activity sheet* to pairs or small groups to examine. Also use the *Exploring photos large images*, if needed.

- What can you see? *What can the pupils observe?*
- What do you know? *What do they understand about the photo?*
- What do you wonder? *What questions do they have about the photo?*

If there is time, ask pupils to feed back their observations to the class, using the corresponding slide for their sheet.

Summarise with:

- What do you think happened?
- How is this linked to climate change?
- Are these communities responsible for these events?
- Is this fair?



Slide 12: Video

The Salvation Army works towards bringing fairness to all, so it helps these communities with support during and after disasters and by sharing ways to prevent or reduce the effects of extreme weather.

Show the video *Climate change climate justice* (5:28). Use the *Video key points* handout to help clarify any questions the pupils have.

- How does The Salvation Army help communities fight against the effects of climate change?
- How is The Salvation Army trying to make things fair?
- Why do you think The Salvation Army does this?
- The video highlighted the three R's (reduce, reuse and recycle) - did you spot the fourth R and what it means? (rally - speaking out)

If pupils may have found some answers to their 'I wonder' section of the *Exploring photos*, ask them to record them on the sheet in a different colour.





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CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

Slide 13: Bible verse

Christians believe God created this wonderful and amazing planet and we have a special place in God's creation. They believe that God asks us to love, protect and care for the world and everything in it.

Explain that the following verses can be found in the Bible, the holy book for Christians. Some Christians use Bible verses as part their reasons why they should fight climate change.

In talk partners ask pupils to discuss and decide which verse they think is the most important reason for Christians to fighting climate change.

- '[God] put [humans] there to farm its land and take care of it.' (Genesis 2:15 *NIRV*)
- 'The earth and everything in it belong to the Lord. The world and all its people belong to him.' (Psalm 24:1 *ICB*)
- 'God looked at everything he had made, and it was very good.' (Genesis 1:31 *ICB*)
- 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' (Matthew 22:39 *NIV*)

ACTIVITIES

Slides 14-21 Activities

Select an activity for your class or create activity stations to let pupils respond with their preferred option. Use the corresponding **Activity sheet** for each task with optional blank sheets for pupils to write on.

Hope poster

Create a two-sided mini poster (A5). On one side write a question or statement about climate change today; on the other write a hope for the future. Then illustrate. Attach string or a lollipop stick so the poster can twirl, showcasing both sides.

Letter

- Write a letter of hope to the planet.
- Write a letter to a councillor or MP about climate change.



Poem

Select a poetry style and write a poem about fairness for the world or hope for the future, or about reduce, reuse and recycle.

Reminder notes

Create reminder notes / mini posters to take action to fight climate change, eg reminders to reduce, recycle and reuse. These can be fixed to key places in the classroom or school or taken home.





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Plan

How would you stop climate change? What are your plans?
Plan out your ideas to revolutionise the world.



Research

Find out more about how The Salvation Army is supporting people by checking websites. You may wish to email the sheet to pupils to preserve the hyperlinks.

Pledge card

Fill out a pledge card. What will you do to make a difference for the planet, eg by reducing, reusing and recycling?

PLENARY

Slide 22: Tell me one thing...

- about the impact of climate change on communities around the world
- about how The Salvation Army is helping to fight against climate change
- about what you are going to do to help prevent climate change

Slide 23: Song

You may wish to end by sharing the song '[One Planet](#)' (2:49) by The Salvation Army, to help raise awareness about caring for our world.

