



ADVANCING FUTURES

Education for Sustainable Development and Citizenship

The Climate is a Commons



Introduction

Today we are going to learn about a special kind of resource called a “commons”, specifically the climate.

A commons is a special kind of resource that belongs to everyone in a community. It is something that we all share and have equal access to. Examples of commons can include parks, libraries, and the air we breathe.



The climate is a shared resource that belongs to everyone on the planet, and we all have a responsibility to take care of it.

What different commons can you think of? Write or draw them in the box below.



1. Big Questions

- What is the climate?
- What are rights?
- What are responsibilities?

2. What's the difference between these rights and responsibilities? What do they have in common?

Complete the diagram by putting the phrases below under the correct heading.

- clean air and water
- reduce waste
- be mindful of our impact on the planet
- natural resources
- campaign for change
- be aware of the impact of our actions
- conserve energy
- protect the environment
- a stable climate
- a healthy environment

I have the
Responsibility to...

Both

I have the
Right to...

Rights, Responsibilities, the Climate and Us

Think

Take a few minutes to think about any other rights we have to do with the climate.

Pair

Talk to a partner. Did you think of the same ideas?

Share

Discuss the different rights and responsibilities we have to our climate as a group



Going Forward

What changes do we need to make?

Create your own story/dialogue/play/film/comic

Use one of the prompts below, or think of your own

1. *Jane and her friends learn about the impacts of climate change on their community and decide to take action by organizing a school-wide campaign to promote environmental awareness and responsibility.*

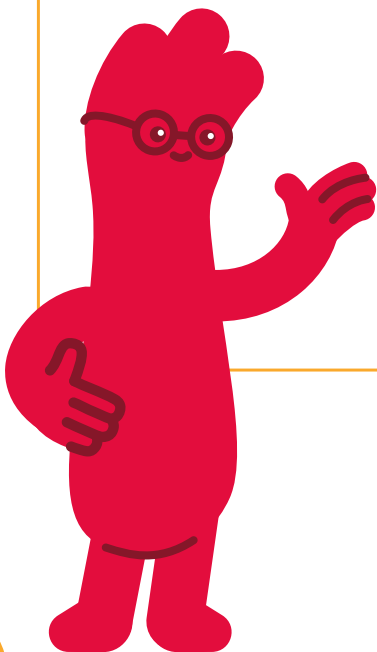
NEWS

- 2. When a major corporation announces plans to build a factory in their town, a group of students must navigate complex ethical and legal questions around their rights to clean air and water, and their responsibilities to protect the environment.*

- 3. As a group of international exchange students explore a new country, they discover cultural differences in attitudes towards climate change and explore the role of individual and collective responsibility in addressing global environmental challenges.*

Have you got an idea or an activity about the Climate that you want to share with the world?

Ask your teacher about Change Makers.



**CHANGE
MAKERS**



