

TOGETHER WE CAN TAKE CLIMATE ACTION!

Picture Book Activity



Read This First!

Grade Levels: 7-10 | **Time Required:** 1-3 class periods

Objectives:

- Students will watch a slideshow about climate change, its effects on local communities, and how people are working together to address it locally.
- Students will work in groups to identify the most important information from the slideshow and their own research to share with elementary-age students.
- Students will work in groups to create an age-appropriate picture book that shares this information with younger students.

Materials:

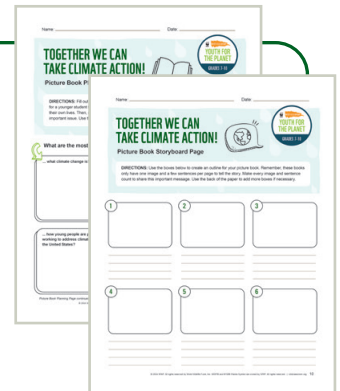
- Youth for the Planet Slideshow
- Slideshow Note Sheets
- Together We Can Take Climate Action! Picture Book Planning Pages
- Together We Can Take Climate Action! Storyboard Pages
- Blank paper, markers, colored pencils, pens, stapler

Additional Resources:

[World Wildlife Fund – Effects of Climate Change](#)

[United Nations: Youth in Action](#)

[World Wildlife Fund – Climate](#)



Teacher Instructions

1. **Present the slideshow** to introduce the issue of climate change and what actions people can take to address it locally. Have students take notes using the *Slideshow Note Sheet*.
2. **Break your class into groups of 2 to 4.** Give each group one of the following prompts to discuss and respond to.

PROMPTS: 1) *What do you feel are the most important ideas in the slideshow and why?*

2) *Why might it be important to share this information with students younger than you?*

3) *What additional information might be helpful if you were going to teach a younger person about this topic?*

Teacher Instructions continued on next page.

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Picture Book Activity *continued*



Give the groups 5 to 10 minutes to discuss and write down their thoughts on a piece of blank paper. Then, have groups share their prompt and their response with the class. Encourage students to write down their classmates' ideas on their paper as they listen to the responses.

3. **Pass out the *Planning Pages*** and give students time to work together to fill them out, using the information from the slideshow and any other resources you choose (see *Additional Resources*).

4. **Allow students to use the *Storyboard Pages*** to map out their picture books. Once they have completed the storyboard, have them create their picture book using the supplies listed in the “materials” section.

5. **When all groups have finished**, have groups take turns sharing their picture books with one another.

Helpful Tips



- It may be useful to have a few examples of picture books present in the room so students can see how much information to include on a page, what type of illustrations to draw, etc.
- You may also want to show students examples of nonfiction books for children so they can see how authors have made real-world concepts age-appropriate for younger audiences.
- If students need more examples of how picture books are set up, **YouTube** has numerous videos of nonfiction picture books to read aloud.

Extension Opportunity:

Reach out to teachers in your local elementary school to see if they'd be willing to have your students come read their books to their students. This could be an in-person activity or could even take place over Zoom! You could also laminate the books and donate them to your elementary library so younger students could read them on their own.



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Picture Book Planning Page



DIRECTIONS: Fill out the graphic organizer below with the information you feel is most important for a younger student to understand about climate change and how they can take climate action in their own lives. Then, consider what type of story would best help a younger student understand this important issue. Use the 2nd graphic organizer to begin to plan out your story.



What are the most important things a younger student needs to know about ...

... what climate change is?

... how climate change is affecting people in the United States?

... what climate actions they can take in their own lives?

... how young people are positively working to address climate change in the United States?

What other information, interesting facts/statistics, meaningful quotes, etc., do you think you might want to share with a younger student?



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Picture Book Planning Page *continued*



Before you begin planning your picture book ...



What is your book's topic? What will you focus on?

Who/what is your main character and your setting?

What will happen in the beginning of your story?

What conflict will your main character face?

What will be the turning point in the story?

How will your story end? What lesson(s) will your main character learn?

What message do you want younger students to take away from reading your children's book?

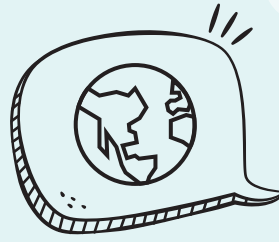


Name: _____

Date: _____

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Picture Book Storyboard Page



DIRECTIONS: Use the boxes below to create an outline for your picture book. Remember, these books only have one image and a few sentences per page to tell the story. Make every image and sentence count to share this important message. Use the back of the paper to add more boxes if necessary.

1

2

3

4

5

6
