

Climate Chaos

Day 4 Morning session: What we can do; Planning for action – energy use at school

Activity 3: Action plan

Time required: 1 hour

You will need

- The energy surveys from Activity 1
- The flipchart sheet from Activity 2, displayed accessibly
- Paper and coloured felt tips or highlighters
- A sheet of paper divided into three columns marked short-, medium-, and long-term.

Aim

To encourage practical action to reduce the school's carbon dioxide emissions.

What to do

Ask the pupils to return to their groups from Activity 1. They should use their surveys and the ideas from Activity 2 to draw up a list of actions that the school should take to reduce its carbon dioxide emissions.

They should then go through their list and, using three different coloured felt tips or highlighters, mark which actions could be taken immediately and at no cost; which will take some time to plan or will cost a small amount; and which will cost a lot and take a lot of planning.

Take feedback from the groups. Ask all the groups to say their easy/free actions first and record them under 'short term', then their medium-term ideas, and finally their long-term ideas. Discuss who could carry out each of the actions (e.g. pupils, teachers, schoolkeeper, parents, etc. – or a combination).

Suggest that the class carries out straight away any of the easy, free actions that they have identified, which pupils can do, to have an immediate impact on reducing their contribution to climate change.

The list of short, medium and long-term ideas should ideally form the basis of a future school action plan. If possible, arrange for a group to present the ideas to the head teacher, school council or an assembly. Planning a presentation could be carried out in the afternoon, or in their planning time on Day 5.