

# Changing the world from our classrooms

## A Story for the Climate Crisis: Raising Awareness through Creative Writing



*This lesson plan is based on a live online lesson given by our Change Makers Ambassador, Harry Waters. Part of a series of live lessons for students, called Changing the world from our classrooms.*

### **Introduction:**

Welcome, curious and compassionate teachers. Today, we embark on a thrilling journey that combines the power of imagination and the importance of environmental understanding. Through the art of creative writing, we will unravel the gripping story of the climate crisis, exploring characters, narratives, and verses that resonate with the heart of our planet.

### **Unveiling the Learning Horizons:**

- Delve into the climate crisis through a child-friendly lens, fostering understanding and empathy.
- Ignite creativity and language skills via character descriptions, storytelling, and poetry.
- Cultivate a profound sense of responsibility, nurturing a deep connection with our planet Earth.

### **Unveiling other important, yet not quite as vital to the flow of the lesson, Learning Horizons:**

- Engage with the climate crisis using storytelling techniques tailored to young minds.
- Unlock the realm of creativity as you guide students to give life to characters and their stories.
- Foster ecological stewardship and instill a sense of duty towards preserving our planet.

### **A Deeper Dive into the Voyage through learning (Lesson procedure):**

#### *Activity 1&2: Imagining the Litter Monster*

Step into a world of wonder as you introduce your learners to the concept of a 'litter monster.' Through evocative description, let them visualize the colossal, fearsome creature formed entirely from litter. Allow their imagination to soar as they sketch their interpretation of this monster – an embodiment of the havoc we wreak on our environment.

#### *Activity 3&4: Alicia's Adventure*

Embark on Alicia's brave journey as she confronts the menace of plastic pollution. Through captivating storytelling, students traverse the challenges and triumphs of Alicia's quest. Encourage artistic expression as they sketch their rendition of the formidable Litternator. Engage in an insightful dialogue about the importance of nurturing our planet, just as Alicia did.

### *Comprehension and Reflection:*

Engage in a collaborative exercise as students discuss and answer questions about Alicia's adventure. Encourage teamwork and shared understanding, fostering a deeper connection to the story's message.

### *Activity 5: Create Your Eco Superhero*

Challenge young minds to craft their own eco superhero, endowed with a unique power to protect the planet. Invite them to design an iconic logo that encapsulates their hero's mission. Delight in the playful naming process and crafting of a catchy catchphrase that ignites inspiration.

### *Activity 6&7: Fun with Words - Tongue Twisters and Haikus*

As giggles abound, practice tongue twisters centered around picking up litter, fostering an enjoyable link between language and environmental responsibility. Evoke the beauty of nature through haikus, empowering students to capture the essence of the environment in a few lines.

### *Activity 8: Rhyming Fun - Couplet Creation*

Delight in the rhythm of rhyming couplets, as you share a poetic gem that celebrates Earth's beauty. Encourage students to craft their own rhyming couplets, spreading their heartfelt messages of care for the environment.

### *Activity 9: Eco Superhero Talk*

Stoke the flames of imagination as students envision an encounter between their eco superhero and the Litternator. Through artistic expression and written dialogue, unleash their creativity as they explore how these characters might communicate and what they'd share.

## **Conclusion:**

Celebrate the culmination of our creative journey, reiterating the power of creative writing in conveying profound messages about the environment. Empower your learners with newfound insight and a deep-rooted commitment to safeguarding our planet.

## **Bridging Learning and Action:**

### *Homework/Extension:*

Extend the lesson's impact beyond the classroom walls. Encourage students to visually depict actions they can take to help the Earth. Spark their storytelling prowess by inviting them to share tales of their eco superhero's escapades in protecting nature. Foster community involvement as they engage their family and friends in Earth-friendly activities, amplifying their influence as stewards of the planet.

## **Post-Lesson Challenge:**

Introduce the Change Makers World website ([www.changemakersworld.live](http://www.changemakersworld.live)) as a hub filled with ideas on how students can make a difference in the world.

Encourage students to try one of the activities discussed in the lesson so you can then upload their contribution to the website. Emphasize that their actions can inspire others around the world.

Example sentence: "Our challenge to you is to try one of the activities we've discussed today so I can upload it to the Change Makers World website. Your contribution can inspire others and make a real difference."

Note: Throughout the lesson, provide additional explanations, examples, and support as needed to ensure comprehension and engagement from the students.

### A Gleaming Glossary:

- **Climate Crisis:** A serious situation arising from the harmful changes in the Earth's climate due to human activities.
- **Empathy:** The ability to understand and share the feelings of others.

### Bonus Rapid Fire Questions:

- What is the 'litter monster' in our story a symbol of?
- How does Alicia inspire us to take care of the environment?
- Can you think of a unique power for your eco superhero?
- What's the catchphrase your superhero lives by?
- What's a haiku, and how many lines does it have?
- Share a tongue twister related to picking up litter.
- Imagine your eco superhero meeting the Litternator – what could they say to each other?

### Fueling Curiosity with a Fun Bonus Task:

- Challenge your learners to research and present a real-life environmental hero – someone who's made a positive impact on the planet. This exciting addition encourages independent learning and the discovery of real-world change-makers.

### Ignite the Flame, Nourish the Planet:

- With creative writing as our compass, we've journeyed through the heart of the climate crisis. Armed with stories, characters, and poems, our students now possess the tools to kindle change and nurture our cherished planet. Remember, even the tiniest ember can spark a blazing revolution!

