

Lesson Plan 8 – STREAMS Education – STREAMS Education and Activism

Title: **Climate Action Heroes - Empowering Young Minds to Save the Planet**

Grade Level: 3-6 (8-12 year olds)

Duration: 5 sessions, 60 minutes each

Objective: Students will be able to understand the impact of climate change, identify actions they can take to mitigate its effects, and use their creativity and problem-solving skills to come up with innovative solutions to address climate change.

Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and markers
- Laptop with internet access
- Age-appropriate media links and YouTube videos (provided below)
- Paper and pencils for brainstorming and sketching
- Sample assessment activities (provided below)

Session 1: Introduction to Climate Change Objective: Students will understand what climate change is and how it affects our planet.

1. Introduce the topic of climate change and its impact on the environment.
2. Show a short video to introduce the concept of climate change, such as "Climate Change 101" by National Geographic Kids.
3. Lead a class discussion on the causes and effects of climate change.
4. Brainstorm ways in which climate change affects our planet, such as rising sea levels, more extreme weather events, and increased temperatures.
5. Ask students to share what they already know about climate change and what they would like to learn more about.

Session 2: Understanding Carbon Footprints Objective: Students will learn about the concept of a carbon footprint and how to reduce their own carbon footprint.

1. Review the concept of climate change from the previous session.
2. Show a short video on carbon footprints, such as "What is a carbon footprint?" by National Geographic Kids.
3. Lead a class discussion on what a carbon footprint is and how it contributes to climate change.
4. Ask students to calculate their own carbon footprints using an online calculator, such as the one provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
5. Brainstorm ways in which students can reduce their carbon footprints, such as by walking or biking to school, turning off lights and electronics when not in use, and recycling.

Session 3: Renewable Energy Objective: Students will learn about different sources of renewable energy and their impact on the environment.

1. Review the concept of climate change and carbon footprints from the previous sessions.

2. Show a short video on renewable energy, such as "Renewable Energy 101" by National Geographic Kids.
3. Lead a class discussion on different sources of renewable energy, such as solar, wind, and hydro power.
4. Brainstorm ways in which renewable energy can be used to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change.
5. Ask students to design and sketch a solar-powered car or a wind turbine.

Session 4: Climate Action Heroes Objective: Students will learn about real-life climate action heroes and how they can become climate action heroes themselves.

1. Introduce students to real-life climate action heroes, such as Greta Thunberg, Wangari Maathai, and Jane Goodall.
2. Show a short video on a climate action hero, such as "Greta Thunberg: The Disarming Case to Act Right Now on Climate Change" by TED.
3. Lead a class discussion on the actions taken by climate action heroes and their impact on the environment.
4. Brainstorm ways in which students can become climate action heroes themselves, such as by starting a school recycling program, planting trees, or organizing a climate action event in their community.

Session 5: Taking Action Objective: Students will work in groups to create a climate action plan and present it to the class.

1. Review the concepts of climate change, carbon footprints, renewable energy, and climate action heroes from the previous sessions.
2. Divide students into groups and ask them to create a climate action