

## The Climate Challenge - Teachers Guide

### Introduction

Climate change is the defining issue of our generation. The choices we all make today will determine the kind of world that is inherited by the next generation. Not surprisingly then we find that young people are often the most knowledgeable about the subject and the most enthusiastic to do what is necessary to make a difference.

The Greenpeace Climate Challenge is a project designed to empower young people to play their part in preventing climate change by helping them to see how easily they can make a big difference both in their own lives and by inspiring and educating their communities. At the same time the project will raise money for your school (we hope you will spend it on eco-projects in the school) and for Greenpeace to enable us to continue our vital work in showing people, young and old, how we can prevent climate change.

### The Challenge



The aim of *The Climate Challenge* is to get school students thinking about, and engaged with ways to reduce their carbon footprints and the footprint of their communities. At the same time we hope to educate young people about the roles they can play as active citizens, the process of democracy and how they can influence decision makers.

Not forgetting we hope they will have FUN!

The students will each be given a logbook filled with climate saving tasks they can do, with points awarded for successful completion of each. These tasks range from cycling to school (60 points/day), to organising a petition (80 points). We also leave it up to you in your discretion as the supervising teacher to allow/create other tasks and allocate points accordingly. The students should pick a range of tasks that they think they can achieve during the challenge, giving them a points target they can then take to friends and family to appeal for sponsorship. We have suggested that 1000 points would be a good target to aim for but it is entirely up to the individual to choose!

Inside the logbook there is a grid of all the tasks and the associated points. We have tried to award points based on the significance of each activity in preventing climate change. Many of the tasks will involve doing extra research particularly on the internet (for example preparing an energy saving plan) or using the educational CD that is associated with the project. We ask that the students have their logbooks signed (or initialled because some of the boxes are small!) by you, a parent or another responsible adult to confirm they have completed each task.

The challenge is designed to last for two weeks, with one week for collecting sponsors and one week for completing the tasks. Of course we hope the lessons learned will last a lifetime...

We would LOVE to hear about how the project is going. Please do send us updates, photo's, information about what is working and what is not etc. We will write a story about the project in our next Greenpeace newsletter and the local media (and possibly even the national media) are bound to be interested. We do encourage you to promote the project to the local media, it all helps to spread the word and inspire others to do their bit to contribute towards climate change prevention. A call to the local paper will be enough to get them down to hear all about the great work your students are doing.

We have also set up a special website for the project:

[www.greenpeace.org.nz/theclimatechallenge](http://www.greenpeace.org.nz/theclimatechallenge)

The website allows the students to put up photos and blogs about their project and to easily fundraise. We'd like you to also set up a profile of your school where you (or someone you nominate) can add information, photos and videos about the schools Climate Challenge project.

If you would like, we can try to arrange for a speaker from Greenpeace to come and talk to your school (provided we have someone local). The Project Co-ordinator is Dan Marrow and he will be delighted to hear from you and to try and organise a visit. Contact him with any of your enquiries on 021 272 4044 or email: [dmarrow@greenpeace.org](mailto:dmarrow@greenpeace.org)



## Fundraising

The income\* generated by the project will be split 50:50 between your school and Greenpeace. While not mandatory, Greenpeace suggests that the funds raised be spent on improving energy efficiency or in other ways that reduce the school's carbon footprint, and we are happy to offer advice on this front. A school fundraising target related to the project will be a great way to engage the students and the community in fundraising for it.

We are suggesting that when students ask for sponsorship they collect funds straight away. This should reduce the headache of having to revisit all sponsors and collect donations after the project is finished. The easiest way for sponsors donate is via the internet on the project website, we really encourage this option as it will massively reduce the administration and money handling effort. Of course sponsors can also give by cash and cheque. Each logbook has a tear off pocket sponsorship form for the students to keep track of sponsors and donors.



Sponsorship can be in the form of a dollar-for-points system (e.g.: 2c per point achieved) or a fixed amount chosen by the sponsor. If a student sets a target of 1000 points for example, this would be a \$20 donation for the sponsor if they chose to give 2c per point.

At the end of the project the students should hand in their completed logbooks and sponsorship forms to you along with any cash and cheques (should be

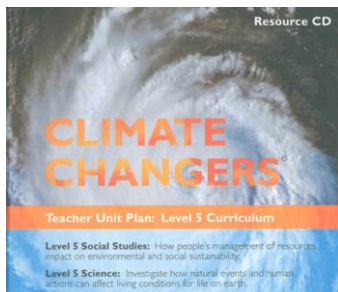
made payable to Greenpeace NZ Inc) they have collected. So that Greenpeace can accurately record who has raised what funding we would like you to send us a list of the students names along with details of amount collected in cash and amount collected in cheques. We will then reconcile these amounts with the amount raised

online to finalise the individual fundraising totals and send out the prizes and certificates.

For ease we would appreciate if you would bank all cash to your schools bank account and issue a cheque for 100% of total funds received to Greenpeace NZ Inc. We will add this amount to all funds raised online for your school and issue the school with a cheque for 50% of the amount received\*. We can also send tax receipts to any donor who requests this.

## Materials

Greenpeace will provide the background information, tools and materials required to run the challenge, prizes for the top fundraisers, the website to tie everything together and track progress, and an initial presentation to participating classes if needed.



This pack has a range of materials to work from, including, the Climate Changers Educational CD containing interactive lessons on climate change, teaching guides and many other helpful guides and background information..

The CD includes a host of information for Level 5 Social Studies and Science students regarding environmental and social sustainability as well as the most serious environmental and humanitarian issue facing our planet: climate change. It has been especially written by a fellow teacher to make sure you have everything you might need to make teaching with it easy. **It is suitable for students of a variety of ages**

Lessons cover five areas:

- The Greenhouse Effect
- Causes of Climate Change
- Consequences of Climate Change
- Taking Action against Climate Change
- n Inconvenient Truth (A companion work-guide to Al Gore's documentary)



The CD requires a Windows or Mac PC with a display resolution of 1024 x 768 or higher.

## The Logbook and Stickers



Each logbook contains information about the challenge and climate change in general, a chart to be filled in as activities are completed and a tear-off pocket sponsorship book.

We have some stickers for each school and the children can use them however they wish (but you might have your own guidelines for that, i.e. not stuck on school property!).



## Other Materials

Included in this pack are Greenpeace's climate change fact sheets, our brochure "How you can help the climate" and a clean energy guide. You can choose if and how you use these.

### **Web Resources**

Greenpeace is working with the community fundraising site [donauction.co.nz](http://donauction.co.nz) to provide online information about the challenge, progress reports and a public space for participants to gather and swap stories, encouragement and other information about their actions.

Aside from this, there are plenty of places on the net to find more information, tips and guides on how to reduce our carbon footprints. These include:

[www.energywise.govt.nz](http://www.energywise.govt.nz)  
[www.fuelsaver.govt.nz](http://www.fuelsaver.govt.nz)  
[www.cleanenergyguide.org.nz](http://www.cleanenergyguide.org.nz)  
[www.bethechange.org.nz](http://www.bethechange.org.nz)  
[www.yes2wind.co.nz](http://www.yes2wind.co.nz)

You will also find plenty of web references on the teaching CD to match with the various subject areas.

### **Contact information**

Should you have any queries about the project then please do not hesitate to get in contact with:

Dan Marrow  
Climate Challenge Project Co-ordinator (based in Christchurch)  
Greenpeace Aotearoa NZ  
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[dmarrow@greenpeace.org](mailto:dmarrow@greenpeace.org)

or

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***We all rely on nature for survival and now nature is relying on us.***

\*This is net income once associated costs such as credit card transaction fees have been deducted. It is anticipated these costs will be less than 20%. If you would like more details about these costs please contact us.