

Climate Action

Award application examples, teaching resources

Sarah Lardner, Sustainability Engagement Officer, SMBC



Greener Solihull Schools Award



Level 1 – A team of pupils help to raise awareness and improve their school environment

Examples of Eco-team members taking action on climate change

Themes - Food / Waste / Transport / Energy / Nature



Food related

Blossomfield

World Map -Noticeboard -where school fruit has travelled from

Letter sent to school fruit scheme re using local suppliers

Balsall Common

Eco team encourage peers to reduce food waste

Pupils interviewed Solihull Council's Catering Officer

E.g. of questions; Does our food come from other countries? Do we look after the animals we eat? Where is our fish sourced? How do we get rid of food waste?

Solihull Catering service / Procurement



Waste

Balsall Common - Noticeboard with impact of a plastic crisp packet on sea life

OLW - Plastic bottle outside classroom

St Patricks - Collecting crisp packets to create blankets for the homeless

Monkspath - Collecting empty ink jet cartridges for refilling

Solihull College - SWAP shop – Hub page where departments list items to be thrown away

SUP Strategy, Plastic free challenges, Terracycle



Transport

Coleshill Heath

Posters to switch off engines

Our Lady Wayside

Promoted the WOW badge scheme and judged competition entries

Travel Team



Energy and buildings

St Patricks

Regularly check AMR with the eco-teams

CHS

Carry out an eco audit for each class

Blossomfield

Switch off lights, monitor other equipment

Solgrid – energy examples

Ashden Less CO2 programme



Nature and planting

Monkspath

Looking after school gardens / Planning what to grow.

St Anne's

RHS Campaign for school gardening level 1

Our Lady Wayside

Eco garden with log piles, planting, animal homes / Habitats at Shirley Retail Park

Solihull College

Outdoor space of natural beauty, support from local businesses.

Big Schools Bird Watch, Plant for the Future





Level 2 – Engage the school in three local or national awareness campaigns, linked with sustainability

Campaigns / Days of Action with Net Zero carbon theme



Monkspath School

Let's Go Zero is Ashden Trusts national campaign, schools sign up to show commitment to work together to be carbon zero by 2030.



Pupils learning / activities....

- Thinking about what the world will be like to live in by 2030.
- Critical thinking on sustainable cities and communities - sorting cards to show things that are good / bad for the environment
- Created posters for school car park to remind parents and carers the importance of walking to school and using the car less

Year group activities....

- Year 6 used secondary school transition as an opportunity to talk about sustainable travel
- Year 5 took part in Bikeability.
- Year 4 renewable energy included as part of a geography topic

Eco-team activities....

- Turn off computers, lights etc when not in use
- Check the electricity and gas usage to see if changes can be made



Coleshill Heath School



- Combined Switch off Fortnight and outdoor classroom campaigns
- An assembly was held at the start of Switch Off Fortnight to support the children's understanding of the campaign and why we were taking part
- 1st week teaching on saving energy and sustainability
- 2nd week outdoor learning sessions (switch off while outdoors)
- Eco-leader produced staff guidance and lesson ideas for each year group.

*Assembly slides and lesson ideas will be added to Solgrid



Year groups:	Activity focus:
EYFS	Outdoor learning
Year 1	The importance of recycling.
Year 2	The importance of recycling.
Year 3	The importance of plants for sustainability.
Year 4	The impacts of climate change on habitats.
Year 5	The impacts of global warming on our planet.
Year 6	Renewable energy.



Example of Year 6 lesson idea on Renewable energy

Year 6:

Renewable energy.

Think and discuss:

- What is pictured below?
- What do they do?
- Where would you find them?



Activity ideas:

- Write an advert for a form of renewable energy . Use persuasive language and explain why your target audience should buy the product.
- Create an information poster/leaflet about the role and benefits of wind turbines.
- Research into solar farms. Are they eyesores, or are they a necessity that we need to become used to? Write a blog post or a written outcome.



Other campaigns

Living Streets – WOW campaign (OLW)

Earth Hour –WWF (Sharmans Cross)

Level 2 – Campaign 1

Living Streets

This year we re-launched our living streets campaign encouraging children to walk to school. Due to COVID restrictions all children had to park and stride as we did not permit cars on site due to our one way drop off and collection system.

This worked really well and we have continued this going forward meaning pollution is away from our school site!!!

Children also entered the competition to design next years badges. Our Eco council judged this competition which had hundreds of entries of very high standards.



Level 2 – Campaign 2

What was the awareness campaign?
Please provide details of how you delivered your campaign.

Earth Hour – Campaign 2

<https://www.sharmans-cross.solihull.sch.uk/eco/>

The school was introduced to Earth Hour during a class assembly followed by a discussion about Earth Hour and why it was helpful for our planet.

Each class brainstormed some ideas of activities that could be carried out during this time and many children were enthusiastic to turn off other electronic devices as well as lights.

Children were also made aware that if they were unable to complete Earth Hour during the designated time of 8:30pm to 9:30pm (due to it being past their bedtime) that they could participate at another time that was better for them so that they could still join in.

Some classes created posters to be displayed in their classroom and to take home to display in their windows at home to prompt and encourage others to join in Earth Hour.

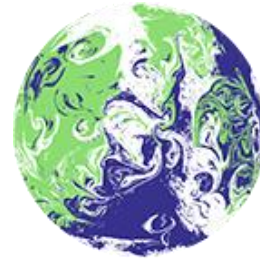
Children that took part in Earth Hour received a certificate for taking part and photos were added to the newsletter and school website.

Please visit our school website to see some fantastic pictures of our school taking part in Earth Hour:

<https://www.sharmans-cross.solihull.sch.uk/eco/>



COP26 -schools pack



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

<https://together-for-our-planet.ukcop26.org/schools-pack-resources/>

Climate animations featuring Kristen Bell (written by Myles Allen, David Biello and George Zaidan)

- [Why is the world warming up?](#)
- [What is net zero?](#)
- [Why is 1.5 degrees such a big deal?](#)
- [Where does all the carbon we release go?](#)
- [Why act now?](#)

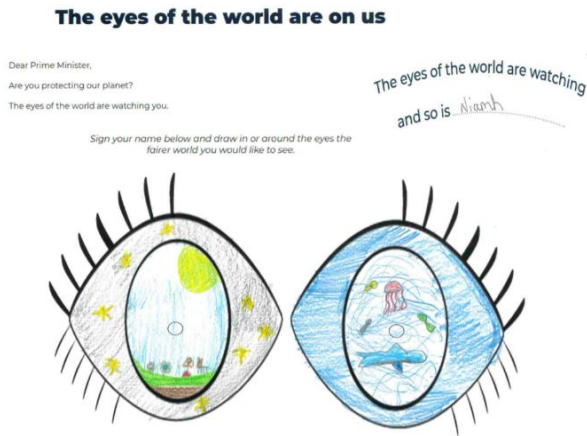
Content by TEDEd

- [Can we create the “perfect” farm?](#) – Animation with Brent Loken (Exponential Roadmap Chapter Author on Food)
- [The state of the climate crisis](#) – Animation with Climate Action Tracker
- [Plan for zero series](#) – 7-part video series based on Bill Gates' new book; animations released so far include:
 - [The myth of the boiling frog](#) (on the challenges of net-zero)
 - [The world's biggest battery looks nothing like a battery](#)
- [Earth School series](#) – launched in partnership with UNEP, which features some of TEDEd's original climate and environment content



CAFOD

- Net Zero emissions – youtube video
- COP Eyes on the World
- Zero the Hero
- Live Assemblies



What is 'net zero'? | CAFOD - YouTube
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)



British Council-Connected Classrooms

- Supported partnerships

UK Clusters join with cluster overseas (Monkspath linked with Egypt)

British Council

- Climate change resources



<https://www.britishcouncil.org/climate-connection/get-involved/resources-school-teachers>

Climate Action – resources

<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/take-action/climate-action-plan-schools-and-colleges>

<https://www.transform-our-world.org/climate-action-planner>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/uks2-a-life-on-our-planet-3-go-carbon-net-zero-ppt-t-tp-2560456>

https://www.teachengineering.org/activities/view/cub_zero_energy

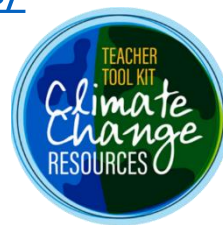
<https://natwest.mymoneysense.com/parents/worksheets-activities/climate-change-detectives/>

<https://cop26.edsentia.com/>

https://www.unesco.de/sites/default/files/2019-03/Getting_Climate-Ready-Guide_Schools.pdf



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY
Design a Net-Zero Energy Classroom
★★★★★ (0 Ratings)
[Click here to rate](#)



Education
2030

Atkins – Engineering consultant



Rachel Black – Engineering Net Zero teaching resources