



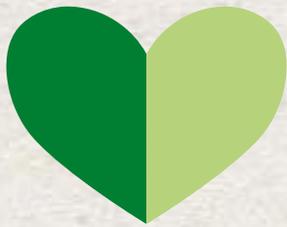
#Showthelove

## Schools Show The Love this February

**Welcome to the Show The Love Schools Pack**

*Let's get creative about climate change*





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Big things are happening this Valentine's Day, and your school can be a part of it! All the places, people, and things we care deeply about are at risk from climate change — but your school can help show the love for them by crafting personal messages about what you love, and hanging them from your favourite tree for the world to see.

This activity is a fun and memorable way for your class to learn about climate change, and how it affects the everyday things we love. By using this pack you'll join community groups, Premiership football clubs, and hundreds of thousands of people across the UK this February in showing the love for all the things you want to protect from climate change.

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## The Activity

### Branch Out and Show the Love

Join schools across the country in showing the love for the places, people, and life that could be lost to climate change:

Step 1 - Ask your pupils to craft green hearts as unique as they are, and write messages on them about what they love and want to protect from climate change.

Step 2 - Hang them on your favourite tree so that you can inspire others to think about how we can protect trees, and all the other everyday things we love and cherish.

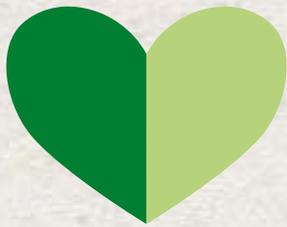
Please see the green heart template on page 11 and loads of Background activities from page 5 to 10 to get your pupils thinking.

### **Pupil prizes:**

Every pupil who takes part can receive a beautiful green heart sticker, helping them to take their climate message with them wherever they go. To order stickers for your class, please contact [campaigns@theclimatcoalition.org](mailto:campaigns@theclimatcoalition.org) and let us know the number of stickers you'd like and where to send them.

### **School prizes:**

Take a photo of your heart-covered tree and share it with us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram using the hashtags #SchoolsHeart and #ShowTheLove for a chance to win an exciting pack of our members' schools resources. If your school isn't on social media, please email your heart photo to [lorena@theclimatcoalition.org](mailto:lorena@theclimatcoalition.org) to enter.



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## Why are we hanging our climate change messages on trees?



Trees are vital for life: They help us breathe and fight climate change; they house creatures great and small, and help make our world beautiful. But trees can only do so much, and right now these living history books are being affected by climate change.

## How trees fight climate change:



Cool fact 1: Wood is made out of carbon, an element which causes climate change when released into the atmosphere. Trees do their part to help slow climate change by sucking carbon dioxide out of the air, turning it into wood, and releasing oxygen back into the air for us to breathe-very clever!

Cool fact 2: Trees can help reduce flood risk and damage both by drinking up water that they need to live and also by 'interception' - this sounds fancy but it just means they hold water either in their branches or on the ground around them, holding back rainwater from rushing to streams and rivers for example.

Cool fact 3: Trees provide shade, this keeps our environment cooler and means both animals, humans and plants can stay nice and cool - I'm sure you've sat under a tree on a sunny day - what a relief.

## How trees are affected by climate change:



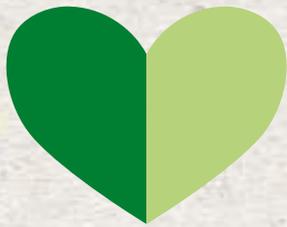
Trees are affected in many ways by the changing climate. While the resulting shorter and milder winters may not sound too bad to us, they cause pests and diseases to flourish, which can damage trees.

This very thing happened at the Farningham Wood in Kent in the summer of 2016, where many trees had to be chopped down because of an outbreak of a Sweet Chestnut Gall Wasp.

## How trees are living history books:



The apple that inspired Sir Isaac Newton's theory of gravity, almost 300 years ago, fell from a tree still standing today. The tree can be found in the garden of his birthplace, Woolsthorpe Manor.



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## What If...

**It's horrible weather and we can't go outside?** Why not make a beautiful indoor heart tree instead? Hang your hearts on a giant paper tree, a potted plant, or on a notice board. You could even ask your pupils to hold their hearts and pretend to be trees. The possibilities are endless, and the more creative the better!



**We don't have a tree in our school:** If you don't have a special tree at your school, make a field trip out of it and take your pupils to decorate a tree in a nearby park or in a square. Just make sure you seek permission from your local council first!

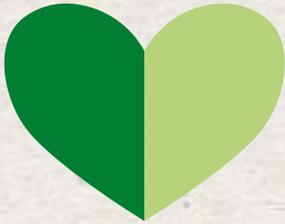
**We can't reach the branches on our tree or we're worried they will break:** Instead of hanging your hearts, you can wrap messages around the trunk with ribbons or create a unique collage around the base of the tree. To create a memorable photo, you could even get your pupils to hold their hearts near the tree.

If you have any questions, please drop us a line at [campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org](mailto:campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org).

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## Background activities: Get your students thinking

The following activities will help get your class thinking about the places, people, and everyday things that could be affected by climate change. Please find curriculum-linked lesson activities, assembly ideas, activities and heart making templates for KS1 and KS2 children.



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## Supporting activity 1: Declare your love to the school - in an assembly

### Objective

To learn about what we love in the world around us and reflect on how it affects us.

### Preparation

- Images of the items from the world around us that children love.
- The Show The Love film [www.showthelove.org.uk](http://www.showthelove.org.uk)
- Each child in the class prepare their green heart (see templates on page 11)

### Introduction

In our class we have been learning about the people, places and things we love in the world around us.

4-6 members of the class explain:

- We have been learning about why it is important to take care of the world around us.
- All the people, places and things we love are part of the natural world and we need to take care of it to protect the things we love.
- Climate change means that the air now has too much carbon dioxide in it which is making it too hot
- We can help stop climate change in lots of ways by driving less cars, looking after our trees and plants and not wasting our natural resources.
- We can also help stop climate change by showing that we care about climate change, by doing this politicians can see it's important to us and will be more likely to make change happen.

If you write a 'poetree' with your class (see supporting activity 2), you could finish by reading it to the rest of the school.

- We have been thinking about the people, places & things we love.

Children stand up with their green heart and explain what they love and what action they will take on climate change. Ask other members of the school if they want to say what they love.

Time of reflection:

- Thank you for the people, places and things we love. Help us in whatever small way we can to take care of them and look after our planet. Thank you for giving us the chance to make a difference to the world we live in.





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## Supporting activity 2: Make a “Poetree” (KS1 English)

### Learning Objective:

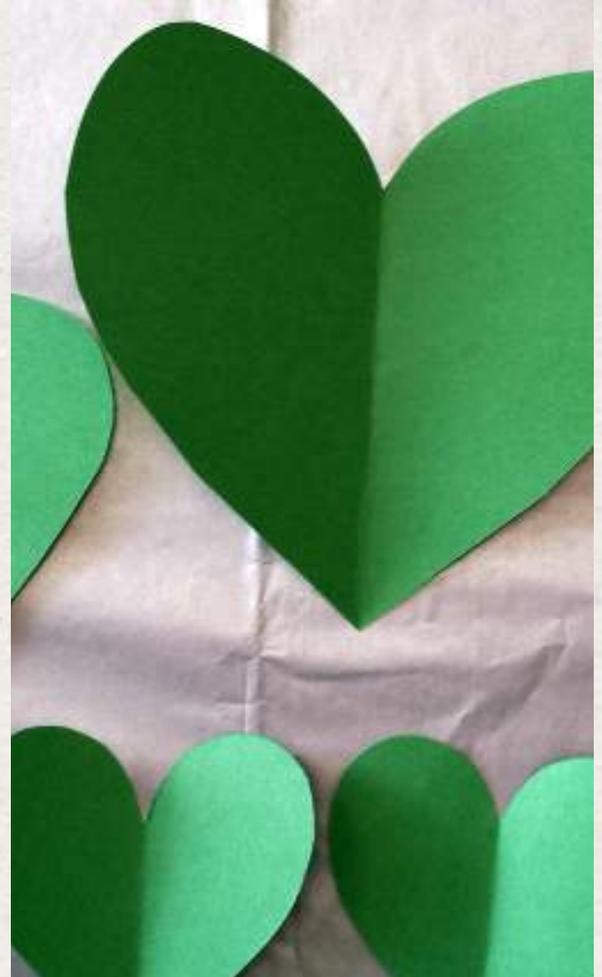
- To develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by: learning to appreciate rhymes and poems and being encouraged to link what they read or hear to their own experiences.  
(from KS1 English Curriculum: Year 1)

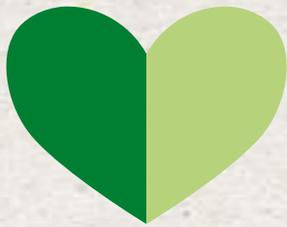
### Resources:

- Selection of poems about trees.
- Green cardboard heart. (with hole punched in top and ribbon or recycled piece of material threaded through it)
- Pens.

### Starter:

- Explain that it is important to care for the environment around us.
- Introduce the concept of climate change. Explain that the world’s atmosphere is warming up because pollution has put lots of greenhouse gases (like carbon dioxide) into the air. This is changing weather patterns in many parts of the world. (There are some resources listed at the back of this resource that may help with this activity.)
- Ask children where carbon dioxide comes from. E.g cars. Explain that trees & plants can be helpful to stop climate change as they use sunlight to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and give out oxygen to help us breathe through a process called photosynthesis. Ask if they can think of anything else that helps fight climate change e.g. renewable energy, recycling, using less energy.
- Explain that climate change affects people, places and things e.g. if crops can’t grow, people do not have food to eat.
- Ask children to think about what they love e.g. climbing trees, football, eating popcorn, their family and explain that these things could all be affected.





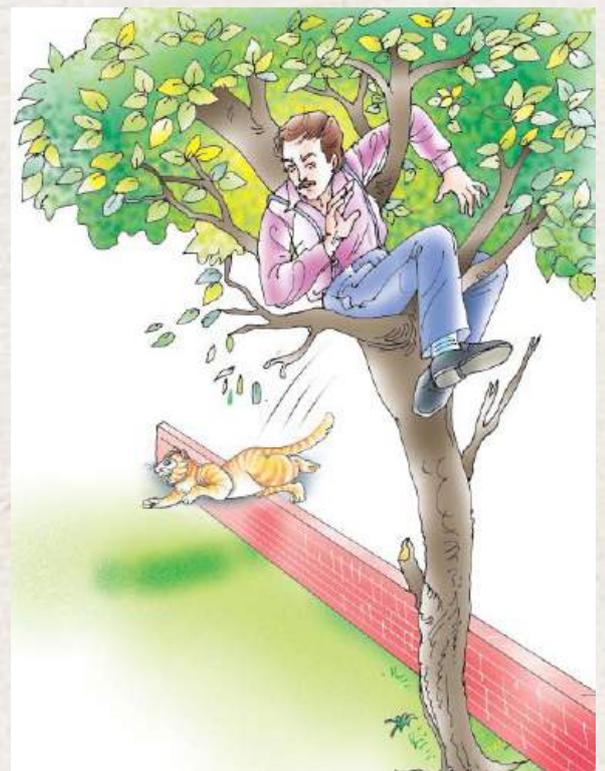
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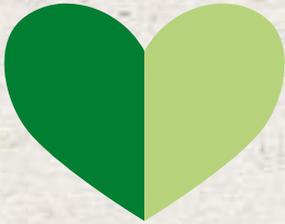
## Main:

- Share poems about the world around us. Some examples would be *The Laugh-A-Lot-tree* by Josie Whitehead, *Dad and the Cat and the Tree* by Kit Wright or *I Want To Play* at [anitapoems.com](http://anitapoems.com).
- Discuss what children like about the poems and ask them whether it reminds them of their own experiences.
- Explain that the children are going to each write a line of poetry which will be compiled to make a whole class poem about the world around us. Each line will be 'I love ... because...' with each child providing their personal thing they love and their own reason why they love it.
- Ask children to write their line of poetry on a green cardboard heart. These will then be attached to a tree which will become a 'poetree' (!)

## Plenary:

- Revisit the concept of climate change and ask children to think about how they could help to fight climate change e.g stop natural resources being used up by cycling or turning off lights.
- Introduce the idea of recycling.
- Start a recycling quest back in the classroom, for any scrap paper and cardboard in the classroom for example. You could also encourage the school or PTA to plant a tree (see *What Next?* At the end of the pack for how to order free trees)





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## Supporting activity 3: Chasing Carbon (KS2 Science)

### Learning Objective:

- To recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things (from Year 4 Science Curriculum: Living Things and their Habitats)

### Resources:

- Cards with CO<sup>2</sup> written on them.
- Green cardboard hearts (with hole punched in top and ribbon or recycled piece of material threaded through it) and tied onto branches. Hearts to have facts about climate change and the importance of woods and tree on one side of the green heart. These could be anything based on the age of the children but some ideas could be:
- Trees prevent climate change by using sunlight to absorb carbon dioxide.
- Chocolate/ football/ popcorn/ butterflies/ forests/ people could be affected by climate change. See more on the surprising things that are affected [here](#).
- Damage could occur as a result of climate change.
- Fossil fuels are burnt to provide power to drive our cars and heat our homes. Burning fossil fuels releases harmful carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.
- Climate change will produce more extreme weather.
- Extreme weather caused by climate change causes water shortages, food shortages and disease.

### Starter:

- Ask children to think about the term 'climate change' and what they think it means. They then need to share thoughts about it in a small group.
- Ask children to find a green heart tied to a tree and share the climate change fact with the group.





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## Supporting activity 3: Chasing Carbon (KS2 Science)

### Main:

#### Activity 1:

- Divide young people into two equal groups. Group A are  $\text{Co}^2$  and each get a card with  $\text{Co}^2$  written on it and Group B are trees. Group A chase Group B - when they catch them they must stop and are given the  $\text{Co}^2$  card by the Group A member who sits down next to them. The game ends when all the 'trees' have been caught.
- Ask young people to note that the  $\text{Co}^2$  has been absorbed by the trees and is no longer in the atmosphere. Reset the game, but this time 'cut down' half the trees and ask them to sit to one side. Repeat the game and note the change at the end of the game - now  $\text{Co}^2$  is left in the atmosphere. Ask young people if they can think of any similar activities they could play.

#### Activity 2:

- In groups, brainstorm ideas about what children can do to stop climate change e.g. turn off the lights, walk to school, reduce, reuse and recycle, turn off water when brushing your teeth.
- Children to then write/draw their ideas on the back of the green hearts and tie them back onto a tree.

### Plenary:

- Ask children how they feel about climate change e.g. worried, scared, upset, unbothered.
- Explain that all over the world, people are making huge efforts to deal with climate change and to find new ways of doing things, so that we can all be less polluting in the future. Ask children to think of some of these new ways of doing things (e.g. solar panels and electric cars) and discuss an action that they can do at home.
- Record responses and write them down on extra green hearts to be tied alongside the other hearts in the format of 'I love X and I will do X to protect it'.





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## Activity sheet for Eco Clubs

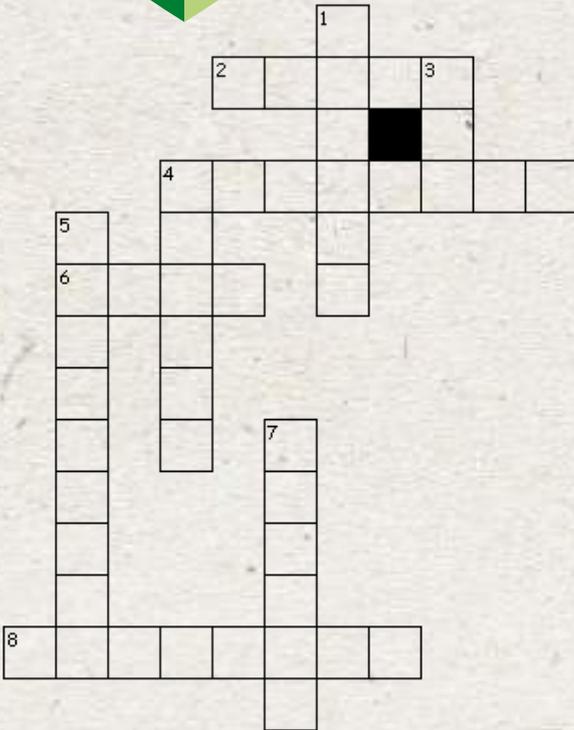
### CROSSWORD

#### Across

- 2. Our feathery friends
- 4. Ball sport
- 6. Where we live
- 8. Father Christmas' animal companions

#### Down

- 1. Icy northern continent
- 3. Where turtles live
- 4. Brothers, sisters, Mum and Dad are all part of this
- 5. Scrummy meltable treat
- 7. The hottest season



### WORDSEARCH

Climate change affects all of these things. Can you find all the words?

- PLANET
- TREES
- WATER
- LEAVES
- FLOWERS
- BEES

There's one bonus word to find...

- CLIMATECHANGE

### QUICK CLIMATE QUIZ!

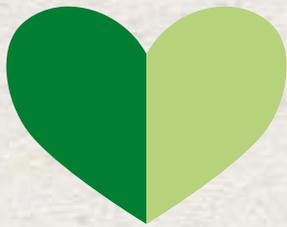
1. Which gas is making the earth warmer?
2. What can give us more oxygen?
3. Why are sea levels getting higher?
4. Which climate is hot, dry and wet?
5. What type of storm is likely to increase with global warming?



Answers for Climate Quiz! Carbon dioxide, Trees and plants, Arctic ice is melting, Mediterranean, Hurricane

# Green Heart Template





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## Show the Love & Win



All you need to do is send us a photo of your green heart tree to have a chance to win our super schools resources.

Send it with #SchoolsHeart and #ShowTheLove via Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.



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## What's next?

Thank you for helping the next generation to Show the Love for the things they want to protect from climate change!

If you'd like to you can post your beautiful hearts to **Matt Larsen-Daw, Project Lead, Charter for Trees, Woods and People, The Woodland Trust, Kempton Way, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 6LL** by Feb 28th and they will then form part of the Tree Charter Love Tree! Any school contributing more than 100 hearts will receive a 8"x 10" photo of the Heart Tree and a certificate of achievement for the school.

We hope you'll join the Show the Love campaign next February. In the meantime, get involved in some of our partners' amazing initiatives:

### Free Trees

The **Woodland Trust** run a free trees scheme for schools including curriculum linked resources. [Apply here for a tree pack](#) - the trees can arrive with you in March or November.

### Climate and wildlife schools packs

**WWF** has wonderful climate change resources for young people aged 7-14 [here](#) and you can find out how to get involved in Earth Hour on 25th March.

### Greening your school

**Eco-Schools England** is a pupil led programme that will help your school to embed the work that you have been doing on Climate Change for "Show the Love" this year. [Register your school and find out more about Eco-Schools in England.](#)

### A Global focus

**The Fairtrade Foundation** have [a set of films](#) on how climate change is affecting food and farmers.

**Oxfam** have loads of amazing climate change schools resources [here](#) - from Female climate fighters to climate challenges.

**Christian Aid** has lots of [resources related to climate change](#), including assemblies. Please visit their website to find out more.

### Outdoor Activities

**Muddy Puddles** support outdoor learning in schools through the Muddy Academy which creates outstanding lesson plans and outdoor resources. [Click here for free resources.](#)