

Teaching Climate Change Youth Social Action through Design Technology

Recycling and upcycling: Provide opportunities for Young people to 'repurpose' waste materials, for example, using plastic bottles to build a greenhouse and making recycled paper using natural dyes. They can also make recycling boxes and signs for classrooms and communal areas.

Careers in the built and natural environment: Young people could research jobs such as landscape architecture and sustainable building design.

Ethical and sustainable fashion: Young people can design and make jewellery and clothing from waste materials. They can also research where their clothes come from and devise ethical and environmental criteria to investigate and compare clothing companies. For example, what are working conditions and pay like for the people who make the clothes? They could even try growing their fabric.

Building Structures

- Insulation
- Design House - room to save energy
- Drainage design
- Allotment design - vegetable beds
- Wildlife garden design

Waste Awareness

- Consumption Awareness
- Reusing materials
- Deforestation and sustainability
- Waste hierarchy

Food

- Local produce/ food miles
- Use of school garden produce
- Recipes using surplus food - junk food project
- Plant-based recipes
- Link with local food waste systems
- Carbon footprint _ carbon labelling

Design

- Living walls
- Herb gardens
- Upcycling
- Investigation of packaging sustainable claims
- packaging evaluations
- Plastic pollution and solutions
- Logos/branding - consider branding of environmental organisations.

Textiles

- Reusing materials to make bags
- Discussion on fast Vs Slow fashion
- Repair skills - Mkae do and mend
- Clothes Swap

Materials

- Renewable materials
- Plastic-free
- Using recycled materials