



Climate Change Action Plan Ideas

Be Heard.

You might not be able to vote yet but politicians will listen to you. Send Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Tim Houston, or your local MLA or MP a handmade postcard demanding more climate action and a healthier planet. You can repurpose cereal boxes for this!

Samples:

“Dear Tim Houston,

We want fighting climate change to be one of your top priorities as the leader of our province. Switching to renewable energies is a big part of the solution. We want half of our energy to come from renewable energy sources by 2035.”

“Dear Justin Trudeau,

We want Canada to join the Half-Earth project, protecting half of the land and sea and beaches in order to manage sufficient habitat and reverse the species extinction crisis, ensuring the long-term health of our planet.”

Some important addresses:

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

80 Wellington st.

Ottawa ON K1A0A2

Premier Tim Houston

2042-2 Queen st.

Westville NS B0K2A

Find the Assets.

Create a map of all the assets currently in your community that are part of climate action. Get the word out so everyone in your community knows about the various ways you're working towards a climate change solution. Here are some of the categories that you can identify and label on the map.

- A. Places with renewable energies.
- B. Stores that sell mostly locally made/produced products.
- C. Electric car chargers
- D. Public green spaces
- E. Places that focus on recycling
- F. Businesses that sell alternative energies
- G. Carpool parking lots
- H. Hiking trails
- I. Add your own!

You have the power (to REDUCE!)

Take a look at your school's power usage. NS Power usually breaks down usage by a month or two. Look at your school's power consumption from a period last year and try to make it lower this year. Make a list of things that your school is going to do to reduce power. Get approval of your list from your teacher and principal and prepare a letter for the other classes. Create posters to help remind the whole school and try it out! Here are some simple suggestions to reduce power:

- A. Turn heat down or air conditioning up by 1 or 2 degrees
- B. Turn off lights when rooms are empty and overnight.
- C. Close doors to keep heat or cool air in.
- D. Unplug any devices or appliances when not in use.



- E. Start a competition among your teachers: who can make the fewest photocopies?

Walk the Walk.

If we're going to talk the talk, we need to walk the walk, and exercise is good for us too! Organise a competition between classes or another school similar to yours (urban vs. urban, rural vs. rural) and see who can use less fossil fuel getting to school by walking, riding a bike, or taking the bus. Tally the number of students that travel to school in a personal vehicle (NOT electric) one day, and the following week see how many can use less fossil fuel. We suggest judging this challenge by percentage of change from one week to the next.

Hug a Tree...but not too tight because they are small!

Create an urban forest at your school. Decide on a location, research proper spacing and care, and we'll supply the trees! (We may be able to organise delivery of trees, or they can be picked up in Meadowville.)

Swap till you drop.

Clothing is responsible for 10% greenhouse gas emissions and 85% of all manufactured textiles end up in the dump every year! Reusing items, especially clothing, means less carbon emissions. Organise a clothing or gear swap at your school!

Inspire: Eco Art

Climate action isn't just about energy efficiency and carbon sequestration (capture and storage). It is also about inspiring others to get involved and spread the movement. You and your class can explore your ideas and feelings about the changing climate through art. The catch is that you can only use paper and plastic recyclables to create your art. Take it to the next level and hold an art auction and use the proceeds from the sales to do something like installing an electric car charger at your school.

Meatless Mondays

Eat with the environment in mind! Food production is responsible for 25% of greenhouse gas emissions. Create a proposal for your school cafeteria to provide locally grown and purchased foods, and reduce meat consumption on the menu. Connect with local farms for produce and meat, and know where your food comes from!

You do YOU.

Come up with your own idea for your class to be a part of the climate change solution. Get creative, do something that works for your space with your resources. Have fun with it, and remember, many small acts can make one big change!