



IO1 – Climate Change
Awareness
Compendium of
Comedy and
Learning
Lesson Plan



FARCE!

Using Satire and Comedy to Promote
Climate Change Awareness



Introduction to the Lesson Plan

The aim of this lesson plan is to support you, as a community and adult educator, to deliver a session using the FARCE Climate Change Awareness – Compendium of Comedy and Learning resources, with adult learners in your group. Through this lesson plan, we will provide you with some sample activities that you can use to deliver one of the Comedy Resources from this Compendium in a group-work setting. When preparing to deliver these activities in your group, it is important that you are prepared to use the Comedy for Climate Change resources. For this, we recommend that you complete the relevant modules from our FARCE In-service Training Programme, before delivering these activities in your practice.

Introduction to the Climate Change topic

Energy production is vital to our modern society. Without energy, we would not have electricity in our homes to power our lights and devices, charge our devices, and heating our homes, and we also need electricity for machinery, and public transportation systems.

Energy production is vital to our lives, and also the economy of each of our countries, but are we destroying the planet from the manner in which we produce this energy?

We use a variety of energy sources to generate our electricity, and there are pros and cons to each source available to us. Let's break it down:

Nuclear energy

What is it?

Energy released from an atom used to generate electricity. This process is called nuclear fission, and nuclear power plants are used for nuclear fission to heat water and produce steam to generate this electricity.

Advantages of this energy source

Nuclear energy does not release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere; therefore, it does not contribute directly to climate change. It is also extremely reliable, and requires a low cost to operate.





Disadvantages of this energy source

Power plants are expensive to build, even though the cost of operation is low. Power plants also produce radioactive waste which is a risk to the environment and human health. The most serious disadvantage of nuclear energy is that if a malfunction happens on site, the consequences can be extremely dangerous as they release high levels of radiation that can cause sickness and death.

Energy from Fossil Fuels

What is it?

Energy can be generated from fossil fuels by burning them in the presence of oxygen. When these fossil fuels are burned, the carbon and the hydrogen react with the oxygen in the air to create carbon dioxide and water. The most common fossil fuels are oil, coal, and natural gas, and they are the world's main energy source, as they fuel our cars, our houses for electricity, and our machinery to manufacture goods.

Advantages of this energy source

Fossil fuels are a cost-effective energy source, they can be sourced easily, and they can generate a large amount of electricity. Even though they are a non-renewable resource, there are still plenty to be found, and the industry creates a lot of jobs around the world.

Disadvantages of this energy source

Burning fossil fuels is extremely damaging for the environment, and have been the root cause of climate change. This energy source has led to excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, causing our planet to heat up, and other devastating side effects. They also cause harm to the health of humans and animals due to the air pollution they cause. They are also a non-renewable source, meaning that there is only a limited amount of them on the planet. We rely on fossil fuels for most of the energy we produce on the planet, so other alternatives need to be put in place before they run out.





Renewable Energy

What is it?

Renewable energy is energy generated from natural sources that will never run out. These sources include the wind, the sun, rain, waves, geothermal heat, and tides.

Advantages of this energy source

Renewable energy sources will never run out, therefore it is not risky to depend on them for the future. They are also extremely environmentally friendly, and do not contribute to climate change or air pollution as no fuel is combusted while this energy is produced. In this way, installing renewable energy can increase public health, and help the health of our planet. Installing renewable energy can also help create a lot of jobs.

Disadvantages of this energy source

Unfortunately, generating electricity from this energy source can be unreliable at times due to the unpredictability of weather conditions. Also, manufacturing renewable energy devices is extremely expensive, therefore, governments have been reluctant to set aside budgets for this. Renewable energy sources also need a lot of space to operate, therefore, more land needs to be cleared to establish plots for renewable energy processes.

Getting to know the Resources

In this section, we will provide you with a brief introduction to the Comedy Resource that you will use in when delivering this lesson plan in a group of adult learners.

What is covered in the Comedy Resource?

This comedy resource is a satirical song on the topic of climate change. It addresses the issue of energy and, how it is generated, and the effect it has on the environment. The name of the song is “Who has the energy”. The format of a song was chosen, because listening to music is an entertainment form that we can all relate to. Conveying important messages through song in a satirical matter, has the power to entertain, but also to push for societal change.





Applying this Comedy Resource

In an educational setting, learners will be played this satirical song, and will also be provided with lyric sheets to further analyse the content of the song.

Lesson Plan

Title of Session: Satirical Song – Who has the Energy		
Duration		Resources Required:
This lesson plan will take 60 minutes to deliver	To deliver this lesson plan, you will require the following resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Who has the energy” comedy resource • Speakers • Internet connection • Pen 	
Learning Outcomes		
<p>On successful completion of this lesson, learners will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify different types of energy sources • Describe the advantages and disadvantages of different energy sources • Appreciate a satirical approach to climate change education 		
Workshop Opening		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Support Materials
10 minutes	<p>The facilitator will play the satirical song “Who has the Energy” for learners, and will then ask learners the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did you enjoy this resource? 	





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is ironic about the line “I read a book about how to save the earth on my iPad”? - What do you think the creator is telling us about energy and how we generate electricity in our society? - Satire is used to criticise and to expose errors in society. What or who is being criticised in this song? - What is the message that you think the creator wants to get across to people in society? 	
Group Activity 1		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Support Materials
20 minutes	<p>The facilitator will explain that the song addresses the issue of the energy sources that we use to generate our electricity, heat our houses, and power our devices. The creator appears to be mocking people who do not think about the carbon footprint that they generate in their daily activities, and do not even question the energy needed to manufacture and power their “iPad”.</p> <p>The facilitator will then split learners into small groups, and each group will conduct research on different types of energy sources, and will write answers the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the main energy sources we use in society? - What are the advantages of each energy source? - What are the disadvantages of each energy source? - Which energy sources damage the environment the most? - Which energy sources damage the environment the least? 	





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How is the electricity in your home generated? Is it from non-renewable or renewable sources? - After considering and studying all of the options, what is the best energy source for humans to use, and why? 	
Group Activity 2		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Support Materials
20 minutes	<p>Learners will be instructed to participate in a game about energy sources called AGREE or DISAGREE. The facilitator will split the room in half, and one side will be the “Agree” side, and one side will be the “Disagree” side. The facilitator will read out a number of statements, and learners will either go to the “Agree” or “Disagree” side of the room. Here is a list of possible statements that the facilitator can use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable energy cannot replace fossil fuels • Renewable energy is unreliable • Nuclear energy is the best option to fight climate change • Humans should not rely on fossil fuels • We should consider what is best for the economy over what is best for the environment • It will cost too much money to switch to renewable energy from fossil fuels • There is too much noise generated from wind turbines, therefore, they should not be installed • Nuclear power plants should be phased out of use because they are unsafe <p>After learners have made their decisions after each statement is read out, it is recommended</p>	





	to receive an explanation from both sides as to why they agree or disagree.	
Workshop Close		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Evaluation Survey
10 minutes	Ask learners to evaluate the lesson by completing an evaluation survey.	https://forms.gle/ReBnwihb1EET9msz7





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CREATIVE EXCHANGE



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