



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

Global warming is the long-term heating of Earth's climate system observed since the pre-industrial period (between 1850 and 1900) due to human activities, primarily fossil fuel burning, which increases heat-trapping greenhouse gas levels in Earth's atmosphere. The term is frequently used interchangeably with the term climate change; though the latter refers to both human - and naturally produced warming and the effects it has on our planet. Since the pre-industrial period, human activities are estimated to have increased Earth's global average temperature by about 1 degree Celsius (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit), a number that is currently increasing by 0.2 degrees Celsius (0.36 degrees Fahrenheit) per decade. It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean, and land.

Global warming occurs when carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other air pollutants collect in the atmosphere and absorb sunlight and solar radiation that have bounced off the earth's surface. Normally this radiation would escape into space, but these pollutants, which can last for years to centuries in the atmosphere, trap the heat and cause the planet to get hotter. This is known as the greenhouse effect.

Though natural cycles and fluctuations have caused the earth's climate to change several times over the last 800,000 years, our current era of global warming is directly attributable to human activity—specifically to our burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil, gasoline, and natural gas, which results in the greenhouse effect.

Here's just a smattering of what we can look forward to:

Disappearing glaciers, early snowmelt, and severe droughts will cause more dramatic water shortages and continue to increase the risk of wildfires. Rising sea levels will lead to even more coastal flooding. Forests, farms, and cities will face troublesome new pests, heat





waves, heavy downpours, and increased flooding. All of these can damage or destroy agriculture and fisheries, and animal species to extinction.

<https://climate.nasa.gov/resources/global-warming-vs-climate-change/>

<https://www.nrdc.org/stories/global-warming-101#warming>

Getting to know the Resources

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

What is covered in the Comedy Resource?

For the topic Global Warming we decided to choose the format of an article. An online newspaper (or electronic news or electronic news publication) is the online version of a newspaper, either as a stand-alone publication or as the online version of a printed periodical.

Going online created more opportunities for newspapers, such as competing with broadcast journalism in presenting breaking news in a more timely manner. The credibility and strong brand recognition of well established newspapers, and the close relationships they have with advertisers, are also seen by many in the newspaper industry as strengthening their chances of survival. The movement away from the printing process can also help decrease costs.

The first newspaper to go online was The Columbus Dispatch on July 1, 1980.

The Circus is Coming to Town is a futuristic online newspaper article where we played with “not so optimistic” predictions of how our planet would look if we don’t take proper care of our environment. Through a humorous way we showed the abnormal normality.

We decided to choose a format of the online article, because that is one of the most popular ways of informing. It is also eco friendly and you can use them many times. It is crucial to recycle newspapers because they emit the potent greenhouse gas methane when they rot in landfill sites, and for each one that isn't recycled, another newspaper's worth of new paper has to be made.





Tips to write an article:

The **Five Ws and H** are questions whose answers are considered basic in information gathering or problem solving. To collect key information about your writing topic, ask and answer the 5 W's and H questions—*Who? What? When? Where? Why? and How?*

1. Select your topic
2. Do research
3. Activate your imagination (be creative)
4. Select place, date, and time
5. Select the characters in the story
6. Hook your readers (write a catchy title or first paragraph)
7. Edit after writing

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Online_newspaper

<https://www.newscientist.com/lastword/mg24933211-400-is-it-better-for-the-planet-to-read-online-or-in-a-paper-format/>

<https://www.writersdigest.com/write-better-nonfiction/write-a-how-to-article-in-6-easy-steps>

<https://jerz.setonhill.edu/writing/creative1/shortstory/>

Applying this Comedy Resource

This Comedy Resource could be best used if the participants would write an article by themselves using this specific topic and the exercise explained below. The participants should be given the topic related to climate change. Writing an article that is connected with climate change in farsic way is something not that easy to do, but together, in pairs it is possible to make it extraordinary and quite surprisingly well, explaining how things could be better if we are doing it together. First exercise is to open ourselves to others and in a funny and creative way to represent ourselves and to create a safe space for work. The second activity is about the creation itself. The point of this is to get out of our own “box” and try to explore someone else’s mindset. If we could destroy the climate, we have to fix it together. Also indulging in this process one is able to be more creative and open to new possible solutions, developing the imagination which is one of the most important things in order to find new, creative ways of dealing with the topic.

Lesson Plan





Title of Session:		Circus Climate – global warming
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"> • Pen • Recycled paper • Laptop • Projector
Learning Outcomes		
On successful completion of this lesson, learners will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factual knowledge about global warming • Know-how to write an article • Use theatre techniques to address the issue 		
Workshop Opening		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Support Materials
10 minutes	Brain game - Where I stop, you continue. The topic is climate change related. The group forms a circle, each participant should say one word. The first word is SUN, the next participant continues repeating the first word adding the new one (in logical order). At the end the short funny story should be formed. It has to go fast, so that participants have no time for overthinking.	
Group Activity 1		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Support Materials





<p>20 minutes</p>	<p>First we watch/read the article. Discuss it and talk of the elements of the article (venue, characters, topic, future).</p> <p>Divide participants into pairs (one is A and the other one is B). The participants should be given the topic, each participant has ten minutes to write. The style is free, no need to take it too seriously, but has to have a sense and topic issue, no need to finish it. As mentioned above, use the tips for writing an article. Let yourself go, play with it and have fun. After 5 minutes of writing the participants stop and exchange papers wherever they stopped writing. Once they change the papers A person continues to write on B's article, and vice versa, trying to finish the story in the same style as the first person using the same style and topic, also ten minutes. After finishing, read the new articles and discuss it all together. Try to find a winning pair whose combination/article is the best (best idea, or the the funniest one...).</p> <p>The best article you can design easily in Canva platform, and prepare it for online use.</p>	<p>https://www.canva.com/</p>
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Group Activity 2

Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Support Materials
<p>20 minutes</p>	<p>The participants divide into two groups. Each participant in the group needs to pick one character from the article Climate Circus (Master of the Ceremony, dog, Eternal Winter Mr. Filter...). Then it's time to make a show! Each group have to make a scene of what that circus could look like and what people could see there. Be creative, play with it and have fun. Do the short presentation.</p>	





Workshop Close		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Evaluation Survey
10 minutes	Participants gather and discuss and share ideas and thoughts related to the topic.	





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