Sustrans School Programme

Campaign for clean air

Suitable for: Key stage 2 (7 to 11 years old)

You will learn why and how to campaign, start thinking about air quality and make a poster that you can display in your window

You will need

- Paper (any size to fit your window, could be A4)
- One or more of the following: pens, paint, paint brushes, crayons, pencils, etc.

Extra activity: write to your MP



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Why campaign

Campaigns help us to make change happen for the better. We all have some power to change something, whether that be locally, nationally or worldwide.

We are all affected by air pollution. People all over the world are breathing air that is harmful to their health. This can make us unwell, causing our eyes to water, noses to run and making it difficult for us to breathe. This can be especially difficult if you or some you know has asthma.

Activity 1: Can you think of any campaigns in your area? One example is Breathe in Brighton Twitter @BreatheBrighton







Activity 2: Write down a list of actions you and your family could take to improve air quality indoors and outside the home.







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Air pollution from transport

Transport is the biggest source of air pollution across the UK. Many people make short local journeys by car which could otherwise be walked, cycled, scooted or wheeled.

Activity 3: Make a list of reasons why people may use a car and think of some answers which could persuade them to leave the car at home. Try out your answers on a grown up in your household.

For example: some people think it's quicker to use a car, but often getting on a bike can be quicker as you can go a more direct route or cycle in a bike lane past queues of cars. It might be less stressful to get the bus and look out the window.











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Your campaign

There are lots of different ways we can encourage others to take positive action.

Posters can be found everywhere in our towns and cities, on walls and even buses. The best posters are eye-catching and straightforward. They tell the audience what they need to know in the simplest way without overcrowding the poster.

Activity 4: Design a poster calling people to action. You could start by thinking about what makes a great poster.

This website has some useful info on how to make a poster: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkgcwmn/articles/zrn3d6f

Remember we want everyone to do something to make our air cleaner.

You can take a photo of your poster and ask an adult to share it on Twitter @Sustrans Once you've finished you can proudly display it in your window for all to see. Well done for encouraging others to reduce air pollution and improve the air we breathe!







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Write to your MP

Some problems can only be solved by the UK government making changes to policy or law. Writing a letter to your local Member of Parliament (MP) or your local councillor is a great way to share your concerns and make them take notice.

Activity 6: Write a letter to your MP. Remember to introduce yourself, describe what you are writing about, why it is important and what you would like them to do. There's a template to get you started but try and write it in your own words.

Once complete, why not post/email it to your MP? You may like to include a drawing, some artwork or even a poster with your letter. You could make a difference!

https://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/find-your-mp/

Dear (*MP name*…….....)

My name is …… and I travel to school by ……...

I am writing to you about air pollution because ……
……..

The road outside my house/school is *(you could write about cars, pollution, etc)*…….
.....

This makes me feel …….

I would like you to help clean up the air we breathe by (*describe what things could make the air and streets better near yo*u) …….....
.....

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I look forward to your reply and hearing your plans to improve air quality around *(your street or school)* …….....

Yours sincerely

Your name





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