



How to Host a One-Night Climate and Justice Teach-In K-12 Schools

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Attend monthly organizing calls that will begin in October to share ideas and strategies. [RSVP to our next one via Eventbrite.](#)

In Advance

Work with your school's art teachers or homeroom teachers to have students create posters, artwork, poetry, music etc. to illustrate their thoughts and feelings about climate change. Have these up at the venue/create a slideshow of this work for participants to see.

1 Hour Alternatives

1. #MakeClimateAClass: Climate Solutions Videos in Many Languages

In April 2020 and 2021, working with partners across the world, the Bard Center for Environmental Policy convened university hosted-webinars, in more than forty countries, including Mexico and Malaysia, Germany and Japan, Bangladesh and Brazil and in almost every US state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Speakers identified ambitious but feasible local actions needed to solve climate change by 2030.

These hour-long webinars were all recorded, and can be accessed [here](#). They feature local climate experts, indigenous voices, and youth activists, in dozens of languages. Every College, University and High School faculty member who would like to engage students in discussion about climate change can require viewing of their recorded state webinars as homework, and then follow up with an hour of discussion. This opportunity is NOT JUST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES TEACHERS. Climate change touches all subjects. Solve Climate has [teaching guides here](#) for the follow-on class, including entry points from every discipline: philosophy, political science, engineering, natural science, art, music, economics and more. Guides are in Spanish, French and English.

Students and educators: [PLEDGE HERE to make climate a class](#).

2. Videos and Lesson Plans from Action for the Climate Emergency (ACE):

Engage in a motivational event / video / exercise: Why should I care about climate change (and what is it anyway)? See resources from Action for the Climate Emergency, [ACE](#): <https://ourclimateourfuture.org/videos/>

Include hands-on science that illustrates the greenhouse effect, or that help students understand the consequences of the warming--why a degree or two really matters: more intense hurricanes and storms, or urban heat waves, or worsening air pollution, or wildfires, or droughts and water shortages, or sea-level rise, or extinction of land and ocean creatures and ecosystems. See examples in [The Teacher-Friendly Guide to Climate Change which can be downloaded for free](#).

3. The [Climate Crisis Mixer](#) role play.

4. Project DrawDown Climate Curriculum

Recruit Your Organizing Team:

Identify 3-5 people from across your school to help organize your event. Think about **teachers who teach environmental classes, student leaders of Climate groups** at school, and the **careers office** of your institution (if you intend to include a sustainability careers fair).

Register your Teach-In:

Even if you do not have details setted please register your event as soon as possible so we can help identify where events are being held.

Register here: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/651f441c77a5494ba29678d0a14fafdb>

You should pick a date, time, and potential location as you start to invite panelists...

DATE:

TIME:

LOCATION:

Schedule

Here is the mock schedule for the following event designed to last 3 hours:

Time	Task	People Needed	Materials Needed
6:00-6:10	Welcome + Video	Host	Screen or TV
WHY ARE WE HERE?			
6:10-6:30	Large Group Panel	2 Faculty, Admin, 2 Students, Moderator	Table, chairs, mics Or online video platform
6:30-6:35	2 Short Videos	Host	Screen or TV
6:35-7:05	Small Group Discussions A	1 scribe per group	1 large paper + marker per group
7:05-7:15	Break		
JUST SOLUTIONS			
7:15-8:00	Small Group Discussions B	Group leaders or floaters	topics/questions on scraps of paper
8:00-8:10	Break		
WHAT WE CAN DO			
8:10-8:50	Career and Actions Activity	Community members OR Presenter	N/A

8:55-9:15	Closing	Host	Screen or TV
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Invite Admin Panelists:

il template below:

Dear (Colleagues, Students, Community),

Through OSUN, **(Institution Name)** is organizing a [WorldWide Teach-In on Climate and Justice](#) on **(DATE)**. We are participating along with 1,000s of Colleges, Universities, High School/Middle Schools, K-6 Schools and Faith Organizations. For our Teach-In, we hope to start off with a short 30 minute panel featuring staff, faculty, and student voices.

Panelists do not need to be climate experts, just climate-concerned. **Each panelist speaks for 5 minutes on one of the following questions:**

What is the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear the words "climate change"?
What would you like to know more about?

We would be grateful if you would participate and show our community the interest and intention we have in cultivating a climate conscious education for our students. Please respond to this email if you have any interest in being on the panel, or if you have a general interest in helping host the event.

All faculty, please consider **adding the Teach-In to your syllabus** as an extra-credit or required option. At the global climate meetings In Glasgow last November, the youth delegation week rightly called for action "Now. Not Next Month. Not next Year." As educators, we have the obligation **now** to help all of our students-- regardless of discipline-- understand the extraordinary moment in which we are living. Today's students have about a twenty-year window- working as artists, scientists, engineers, writers, business people, advocates, musicians, teachers-- to stabilize the climate and profoundly change the future. Replacing students' widespread climate despair with the recognition of their agency as citizens, volunteers and in their professional work is the purpose of the Teach-In.

Thank you for considering these requests, and of course, glad to discuss.

Best regards,

Coordinate Breakout Groups A & B

Breakout Group A:

Have participants break into groups no larger than 5 per group. Give each group a large sheet of paper and a pen. One member should be a scribe, and each person should answer the following 2 questions and have their response recorded on the paper.

1. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear “climate change”?
2. What would you like to know more about?

In the last 10 minutes Hosts should have groups post their sheets around the room, and walk through them as a large group noting any good questions or feelings they see.

Breakout Group B:

This session consists of 2 sets of 20 minute sessions. For each session identify 4-6 topic hosts who should be given a topic either from the list below or from your own team. Ask participants to choose which topic they want to go and talk about, then after 20 minutes switch to the second set of topics and allow participants to move around. (think of it like stations that will switch topics halfway through).

- Solar Power
- Reducing Food Waste
- Just Transition: Frontline Communities
- Just Transition: Who gets Green Jobs and Green Tech?
- Local actions - what is happening in your community and how can students be involved?
- Regenerative Agriculture
- Urban Agriculture
- Story-Telling and Climate Communication
- Circular Economy Business Models
- Circular Economy Consumption: Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle
- Protecting Forests
- Artists, Film-Makers and Climate Change
- Religion and Climate Change
- Electric Cars and Trucks
- How Batteries Help Solve Climate Change
- Farming the Ocean

If you have particularly interested students, they can prepare some information on the topics above in advance of the event. If not, consider using [these worksheets](#) as guides for each station.

Optional: Introduce this discussion by showing Unit 2 of Drawdown, minute 12:15 to 16:20

Organizing a Careers/Actions Fair

Option 1: Have several breakout rooms including brief presentations/demonstrations about climate careers, climate-solution college majors and programs or action by local colleges and universities, non-profits or businesses working on climate solutions. Have 3 rooms each with a presenter with 5 minutes each for presentations/demonstrations; have participants move from room to room. Appoint student+faculty moderators to prepare questions for the presenters or activities for the audience.

Option 2: Organize a climate justice education, careers and action fair where local colleges and universities, businesses and nonprofits have tables around a large space where students and parents can visit, ask questions and get information. Your school's Career office likely has connections and contacts to help with this type of event!

10 minutes before the end of the session post large pieces of paper around the room with the questions:

What is one thing I learned tonight?

What is something that can solve climate change I had never heard of before?

Alternative: Video

If working with middle school or younger students consider doing a video instead of the career fair. We recommend Young Voices for the Planet film about 3 eleven-year olds who help get solar on their school roof.

Closing Video

Show the WorldWide Teach-In Concluding Video featuring youth voices from around the world (5 minutes). End by encouraging participants to attend local Earth Day events. If the Teach-In is held before your local University Teach-In, encourage students to attend that event.

Update Your Event Details:

Now with all your panelists invited, your date and location secured, be sure to update the website so attendees can easily prepare for your event.

Update here: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/651f441c77a5494ba29678d0a14fafdb>

Build Your Posters:

When you are ready to build your posters you can use a template like THIS, or take a look at last year's posters for inspiration [HERE](#). Once you have your poster made share it with any interns working with Solver Climate 2030 in your area to be sure it is spread around social media. Not sure if you have an intern in your area? Email ADD MASHA'S EMAIL to find them and connect.

Let your institution know you are hosting this event by sending an email out on

- **Student Listservs**
- **Faculty Listservs**
- **Alumni Newsletters**
- **Local News Outlets**

If any organizers are a part of **climate organizations local to your institution**, invite them as well!