

Resources and Ideas for Leading on the Climate Emergency

compiled by Diane Shisk

In a recent webinar, Diane shared lots of resources to help us lead a class/group on the climate emergency. She said *"You don't have to do all these things, just do one to start! Have assistants, encourage them to lead, too. Support group of people leading/involved would be great."*

Main goals of any class/group

1. Discharge
2. Discharge on what stops people from paying attention to this issue and learning a little bit
3. Discharge on what stops people from getting engaged
4. Discharge on connection to oppression

Key distresses to work on

"Remember that these will come up over and over for people, so keep coming back to working with people on this stuff."

It's really scary

It's too late—hopelessness, discouragement

I'm too small, insignificant, powerlessness

Too many other things are important—true but...

Isolation—taking action often brings up early feelings of being on our own

Things to do and resources to use in a class/group

Explore the SAL website

for many, many resources

at: <https://sustainingalllife.org>

(or, if that link doesn't work, try:)

<http://sustainingalllife.com/>

SAL/UER Handouts

Pick a handout or two and lead a class on that topic. Repeat many times.

Handouts are online here:

at: <https://sustainingalllife.org/resources/>

Climate Change section on the RC website

<https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/climatechange>

*This Climate Change section has **lots** of resources we can use!*

RC Climate Initiative (2022)

Have people read it and do a mini after each paragraph, or

Everyone reads it and then 3 minutes each for each person in the group, or

Mini session—6 minutes each way reading and discharging on the climate initiative

The The RC Community, recognizing the clear evidence of dangerous and ongoing climate change caused primarily by human activity, will actively organize and support its members to face the challenge of finding and implementing ways to halt and reverse climate change.

We will support all RC Community members to discharge any distress that keeps them from playing any role in the struggle to preserve the world. In doing this, we recognize the role that all oppressions have played in creating the climate crisis, and the need to act against all oppressions to find solutions.

We will create opportunities for RC Community members to gather to discuss the situation, discharge, and develop new ideas, tactics, and strategies—using webinars, think-and-listens, and other means useful in building common understanding.

Taking on this important task will require each of us to challenge the distress recordings that have left us feeling powerless and alone. In challenging these recordings, we can learn to move rapidly forward—together and with increasing confidence—in our relationships with other individuals and in public opposition to irrational policies.

We will assist and support each other to learn about and understand the always-developing situation with the Earth's climate—including by getting involved with individuals, Indigenous peoples, and organizations that are working to stop climate change. This will provide us with direct knowledge and contradict, for ourselves and others, the distress recordings of isolation and helplessness.

We will also share our RC knowledge and practice, so that those who are working on the climate crisis can function more effectively.

Found also at the top of this page (main Climate Change page on the RC website):

<https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/climatechange>

Class outline on this topic here: <https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/outlines>

Great videos to use

Watch videos and have minis afterwards, encourage class members to submit something they like.

Many more videos listed here as well: <https://www.rc.org/publication/externalresources>

My current favorite: Honest Government video re: Net Zero

Original Version: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FqXTCvDLeo>

PG Version: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoMUXjIVN5g>

Webpage: What's Happening with the Climate

The Good News and the Bad News about Climate Change, updated daily, or mostly

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Puj4YXeBtpfS6DZuUFYXG5zL2oVP3iZECTfeXE7XwW4/edit#heading=h.9dz7msxy1o5e>

Have people look at it in advance, and each come prepared to talk about one good and one bad. Lots of minis!

Basics of Climate Change - PowerPoint

It's in the Climate Change section on the RC website. Scroll down a bit into the resources to find it. It takes a while to download. Be patient.

<https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/climatechange>

It's annotated in the notes section of each slide, so you can talk about each slide and sound like an expert. Modify the PowerPoint to be exactly what you want by copying the slides you want into a new PowerPoint (the notes are copied along with the slides).

Attention-out PowerPoint

See also cartoons and cute baby animals PowerPoint for attention out!

This is also in the Climate Change section on the RC website, below the Basics of Climate Change PPT link. Scroll down a bit into the resources to find it. (smaller file, less time to download)

<https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/climatechange>

Short draft program on Climate Change

Read and discharge. See if people have any changes or additions — send them to me!

<https://www.rc.org/publication/theory/liberationpolicy/climatechangedraftshort>

Class outlines

Eight detailed outlines for teaching RC Classes on the climate emergency:

<https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/outlines>

Introduction

Climate Change Basics

Racism

Genocide

2021 Initiative

Parents

COPs

Supporting Young People

Fossil Fuels and Renewable Energy (needs to be updated)

Climate Moments

Spend 5 minutes of every RC meeting on climate change, more than 150 suggestions.

On the main Climate Change page on the RC website. Scroll down to the section on More Resources for Teaching about Climate Change in RC Classes

<https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/climatechange>

RC Articles on Climate Change

(Note PT Index works well but is not chronological)

Have people read and report on an article of their choice

https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/rcarticles_climatechange

RCers stories of the impact of climate change they see around them

Read a story or two and ask people in the class to tell their own stories, or stories about people they have heard about.

Care of the Environment section on RC website

<https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/careofenvironment>

Racism and Climate Change Powerpoint

On this page: <https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/careofenvironment>

Sustaining All Life on Facebook

Watch videos from COP26 on the SAL Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/SustainingAllLife/>

Climate Change resources from outside the community

<https://www.rc.org/publication/environment/externalresources>

IPCC Report, interactive atlas

<https://interactive-atlas.ipcc.ch/>

Video of how to use the interactive atlas: <https://youtu.be/KSRl4J3tZLQ>

15 minutes to play around with it, then create scenario for a relevant geographic area.

Show Regional Report as well: <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/#Regional>