BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

From Climate Anxiety to Action:

Project-Based Learning for Grades 5-12

Presented By :
Vanessa Leibel

Presented To :
BC English Language Arts Teachers' Association

To access free resources for this workshop:
bethechangeearthalliance.org/register



BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Land Acknowledgement

Our home on native land

Native Land is a resource to learn more about Indigenous territories, languages, lands, and ways of life. We welcome you to our site.

Native-Land.ca

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Who We Are

Our Mission

Empowering youth and educators through eco-social education.

Our Vision

An environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, socially just human prescence on this planet.

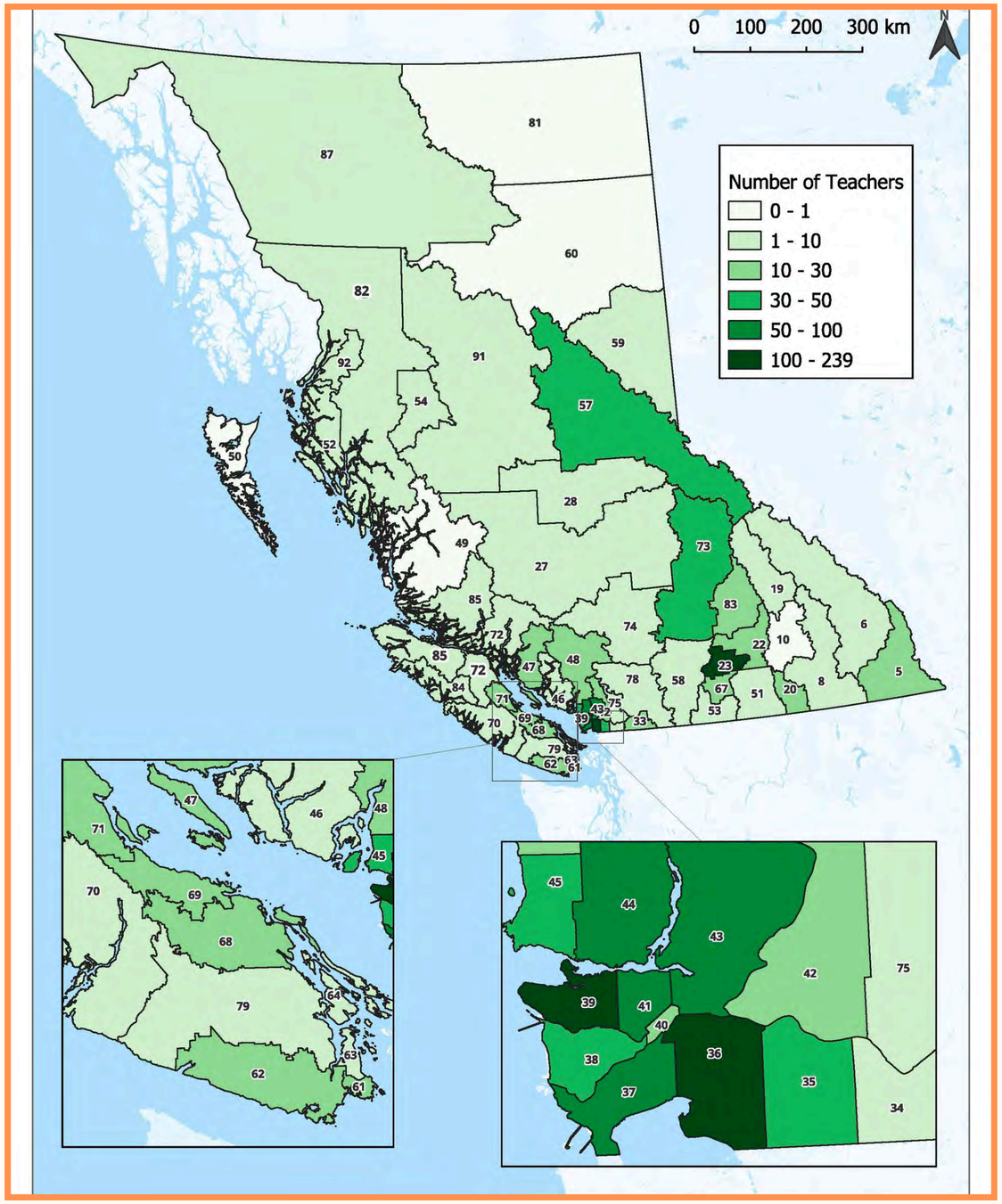


BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Who We Are

Our impact, to date:

- Used across **90%** of BC school districts
- Used by **82,000+ students**
- Used by **2,000+ teachers**
- Endorsed by the **BC Teachers' Federation**



BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Session Overview

1. **Where are we?** → Explore the realities of today's world, and how we might cope with them

2. **What is our role?** → Explore different models for change

3. **What can we do?** → Explore *Be The Change's* flagship resource: *Curriculum For Change*

1. Where Are We?

We want to hear from you! Share your thoughts:

What are your experiences or worries with teaching environmental issues in your classroom?



BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Choosing Our Story

Dr. Joanna Macy was an author, teacher, and scholar of systems thinking and ecology. Her *Work That Reconnects* is a framework for personal and social change, and within it she describes the three stories that are underway at this time:



Business As Usual

- Story of not needing to change the way the industrialized world lives
- Prioritizes profit and power

= Denial



The Great Unravelling

- Story of drawing attention to the consequences that Business As Usual has caused and continues to create

= Despair



The Great Turning

- The story we hear from those who see the Great Unravelling and want to join together to act for the sake of life on Earth

= Being the change!

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

The Great Turning

The Great Turning is underway in three different areas, all happening at once:

Eco-Social Actions

Where are people rising up to stop social and environmental injustices?

Eco-Social Consciousness

Where are new values being introduced into the education system?

Eco-Social Innovations

Where do we see these values for just and sustainable choices?



In your table group, take 2-3 minutes to brainstorm examples for each of these areas!



2. What Is Our Role As Educators?

We want to hear from you! Share your thoughts:

- How would you describe the role of an educator in today’s world?
- What should a teacher be?
- In 3 words, what is the most important function you fulfill for your students?

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Eco-Social Education

- Preparing students to be resourceful and resilient
- Prompting students to think critically and creatively
- Helping students build social-emotional resilience
- Empowering students to become changemakers

Shift worldviews

Foster innovation

Empower positive action



BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Models for Change

Dr. Joanna Macy's Spiral of the *Work that Reconnects*

Gratitude
Respect and thankfulness for our planet

Honouring Our Pain
Creating space to experience and acknowledge climate anxieties

Seeing With New Eyes
We are all interconnected, and we can create change through this connection

Going Forth
Believe in your own agency to affect meaningful change

3. What Can We Do?

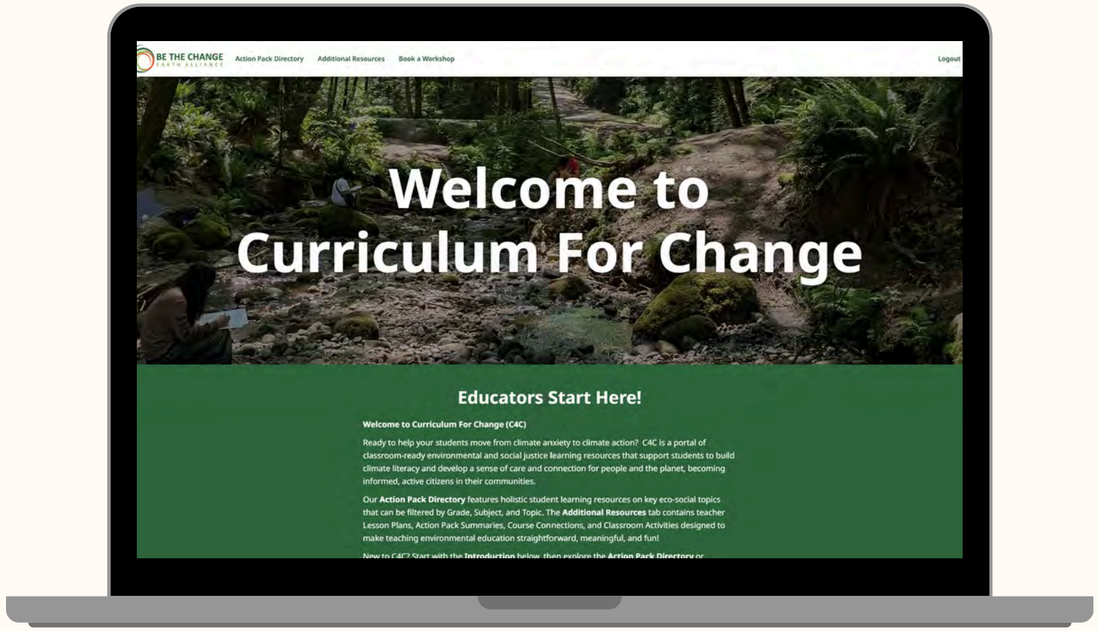


BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Curriculum for Change (C4C)

This model is embedded throughout our flagship educational resource, C4C!

- C4C is a free, accessible, online portal of eco-social learning resources.
- C4C supports students to develop a sense of care and connection for people and the planet, becoming informed active citizens in their communities.



BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

C4C Action Packs

The C4C online portal features:

- 20+ student **Action Packs**, lesson plans, and flexible project guidelines on eco-social topics of your choice
- Processes for building social-emotional resilience and supporting inquiry-to-action
- Links to the BC Curriculum: English, Careers, BC First Peoples & Indigenous Studies
- Materials aligned with the FNESC First Peoples Principles of Learning

Air Quality
What is air pollution and how does it impact our lives?



Circular Economy
What is a circular economy, and how might it impact people and the planet?



Climate Justice
Why is the concept of climate justice important to how we address climate change?



Community Building
How does building strong communities benefit our personal, societal, and ecological health?



Connecting With Nature
How does developing a stronger connection with nature help us build a healthier and more sustainable world?



Critical Ecosystems
How are human actions affecting the stability and biodiversity of critical ecosystems on our planet?



Environmental Racism
What is environmental racism and what are its historical and ongoing impacts on communities?



Food Security
What is food security and how does it impact our communities?



Local Economy
How does a strong local economy contribute to global sustainability?



Local Food Systems
What are the personal, community, and environmental health benefits of growing, eating, and buying local food?



Microplastics
What are microplastics and how do they impact our health and communities?



Overconsumption
How do our consumption choices impact people and the planet?



Plastic Consumption

Processed Food

Protein Sources

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Action Pack Sections

- I — Inquiry
- T — Creative & Critical Thinking
- C — Communication
- PS — Personal & Social Responsibility



1. Exploring Worldviews & Values



2. Global Research



3. Local Activity



4. Self-Reflection



5. Reflective Dialogue



6. Critical & Creative Thinking



7. Taking Action



8. Expanding Worldviews



9. Starting Your Project

1. Exploring Worldviews & Values

Students start by exploring their environmental and social habits and their personal values.

Learning Approaches

- Social-Emotional Learning

Components

- Worldview Survey
- Lands Exploration
- Values Activity

Core Compentencies

PS

2. Global Research

Students research a global eco-social issue through guided questions and vetted sources.

Learning Approaches

- Inquiry-Based Learning

Components

- Library of Links
- Global Research

Core Compentencies

T C





3. Local Activity

Students apply their Global Research learning through a guided Local Activity at home, school, or in their community.

Learning Approaches

- Inquiry-Based Learning
- Project-Based Learning

Components

- Local Activity
- Research Chart

Core Compentencies

I T



4. Self Reflection

Students explore their climate emotions and learning through mindfulness, reflection, and nature connection.

Learning Approaches

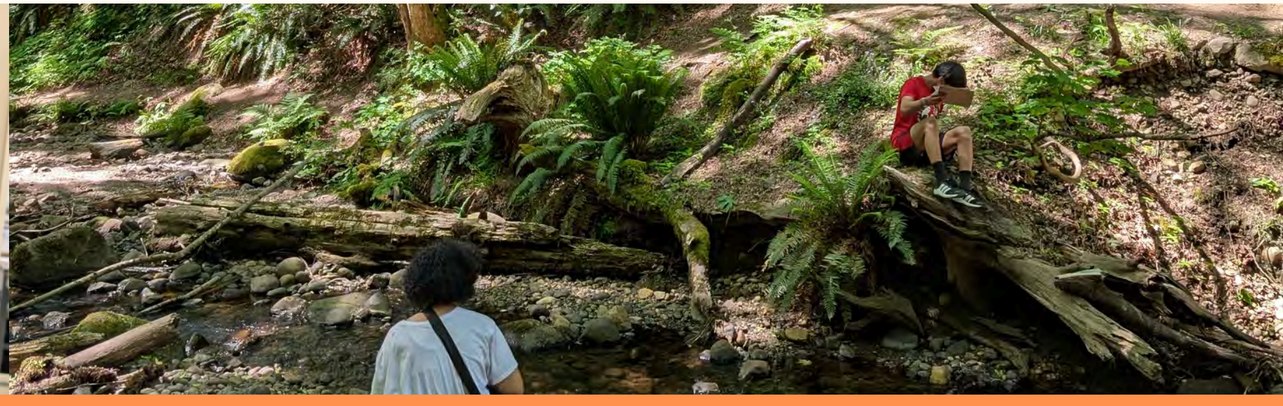
- Social-Emotional Learning

Components

- Climate Emotions Wheel
- Self-Reflection
- Sit Spot (optional)

Core Compentencies

PS



5. Reflective Dialogue

Students share their reflections while actively listening to other's perspectives and experiences on the eco-social topic.

Learning Approaches

- Social-Emotional Learning

Components

- Reflective Dialogue

Core Compentencies

PS C



6. Critical & Creative Thinking

Students explore the eco-social issue from various perspectives and brainstorm solutions for a sustainable future.

Learning Approaches

- Inquiry-Based Learning
- Social-Emotional Learning

Components

- Costs & Benefits Analysis
- Imagining a Sustainable Future

Core Compentencies

I T C PS



7. Taking Action

Students brainstorm ways to take on their eco-social issue and pledge to take action.

Learning Approaches

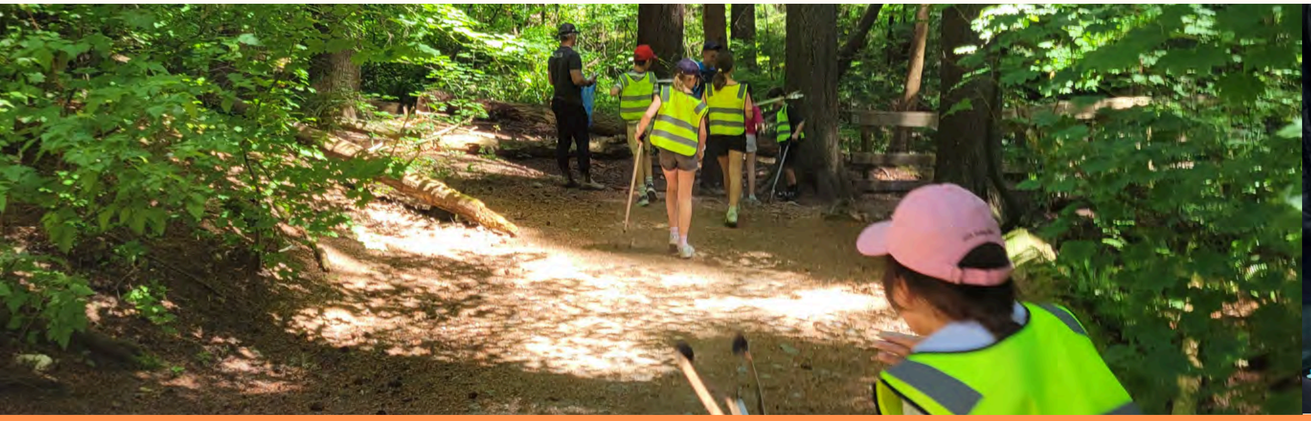
- Project-Based Learning
- Social-Emotional Learning

Components

- Action Survey
- Reflection on Taking Action

Core Compentencies

T C PS



8. Expanding Worldviews

Students reflect on any shifts in their worldviews or values. How will their values influence their actions moving forward?

Learning Approaches

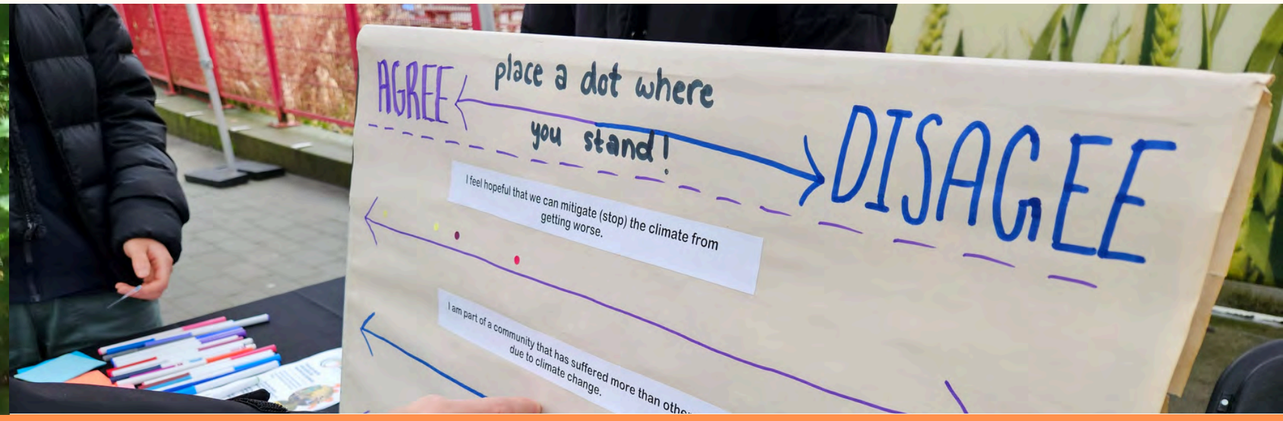
- Social-Emotional Learning

Components

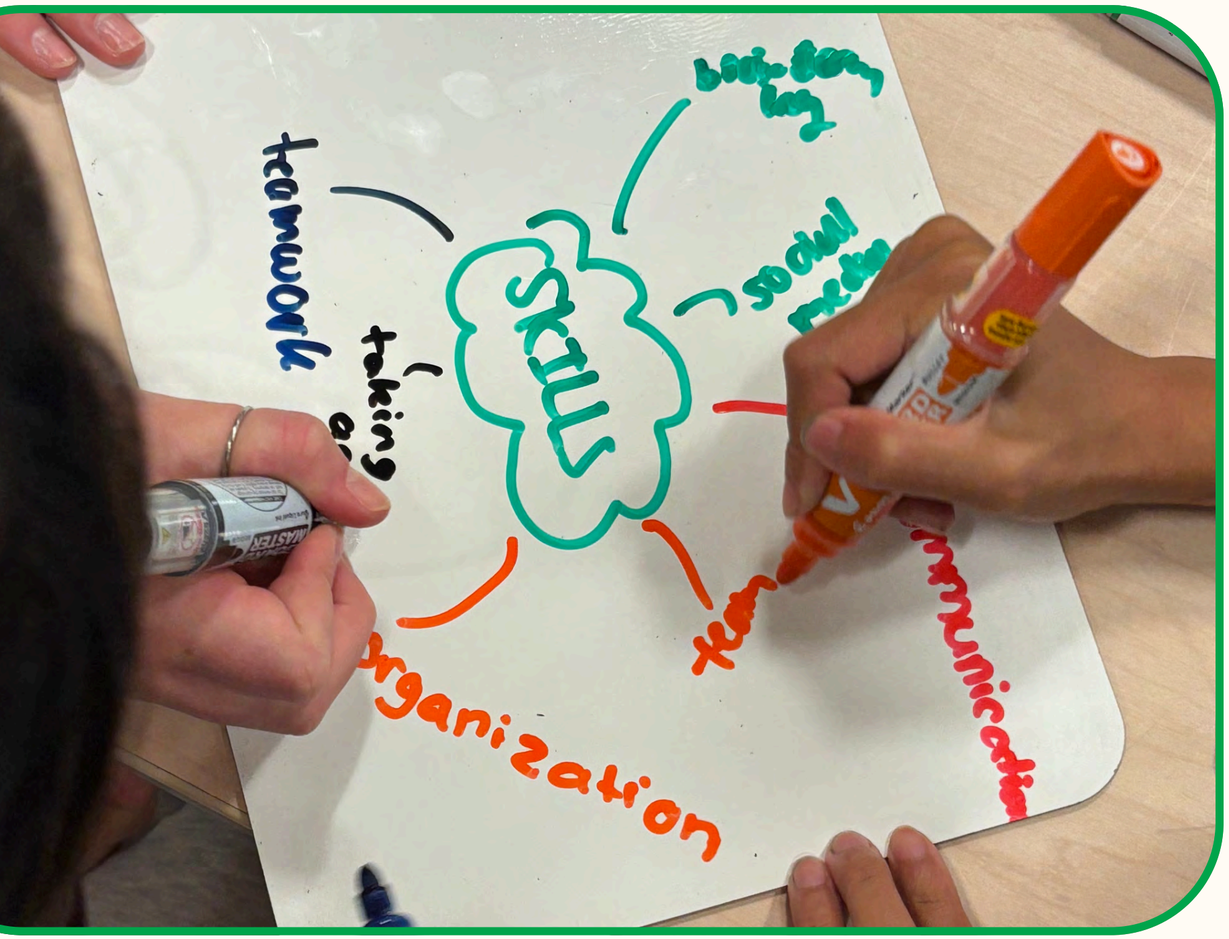
- Worldview Calculator
- Reflection on Expanding Worldviews

Core Compentencies

T PS



BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE



9. Starting Your Project

Students brainstorm community project ideas and transform their learning into action.

Learning Approaches

- Inquiry-Based Learning
- Project-Based Learning
- Social-Emotional Learning

Components

- Project Tips
- Project Ideas & How To Get Started

Core Compentencies

I T C PS

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Login to C4C

Registering for C4C is free and accessible!

1. Scan the QR code on-screen

2. Fill out the parts of registration that apply to you. Skip any that don't apply!

3. Done!

Register for C4C:

Or visit
bethechangeearthalliance.org/register



BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Quick Break!

Website:
bethechangeearthalliance.org

Phone:
604-269-9874

Instagram:
@bethechange_ea

Email:
admin@btcea.org

C4C in the Classroom



BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

1. Values Activity

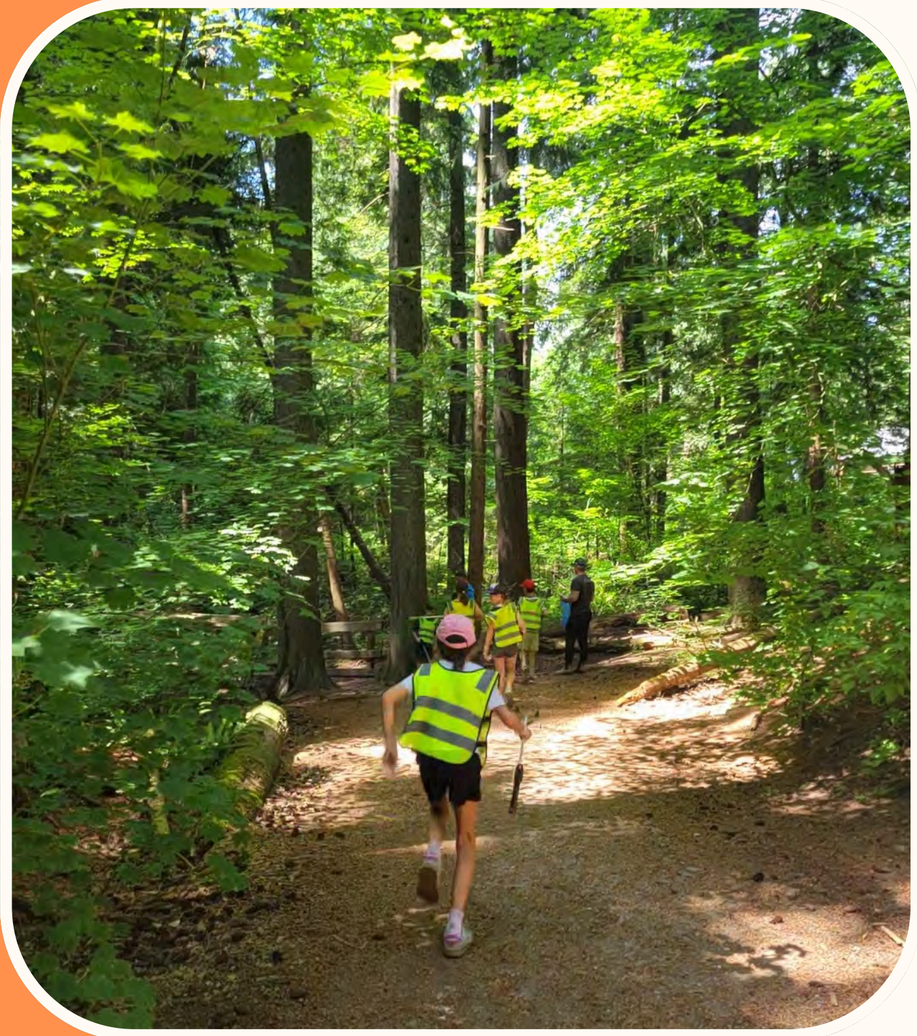
Using your printed Values List:

- Review the Values List.
- Choose the five that reflect your top values, and circle them.
- Choose one value that you want to live by today. Put a star beside this one!
- Pledge to take action in the next few days to express this value:
    - *To fulfill my value of _____, I will take the following action in the next week: _____*



In your table group, share your top values and the actions you pledge to take!

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE



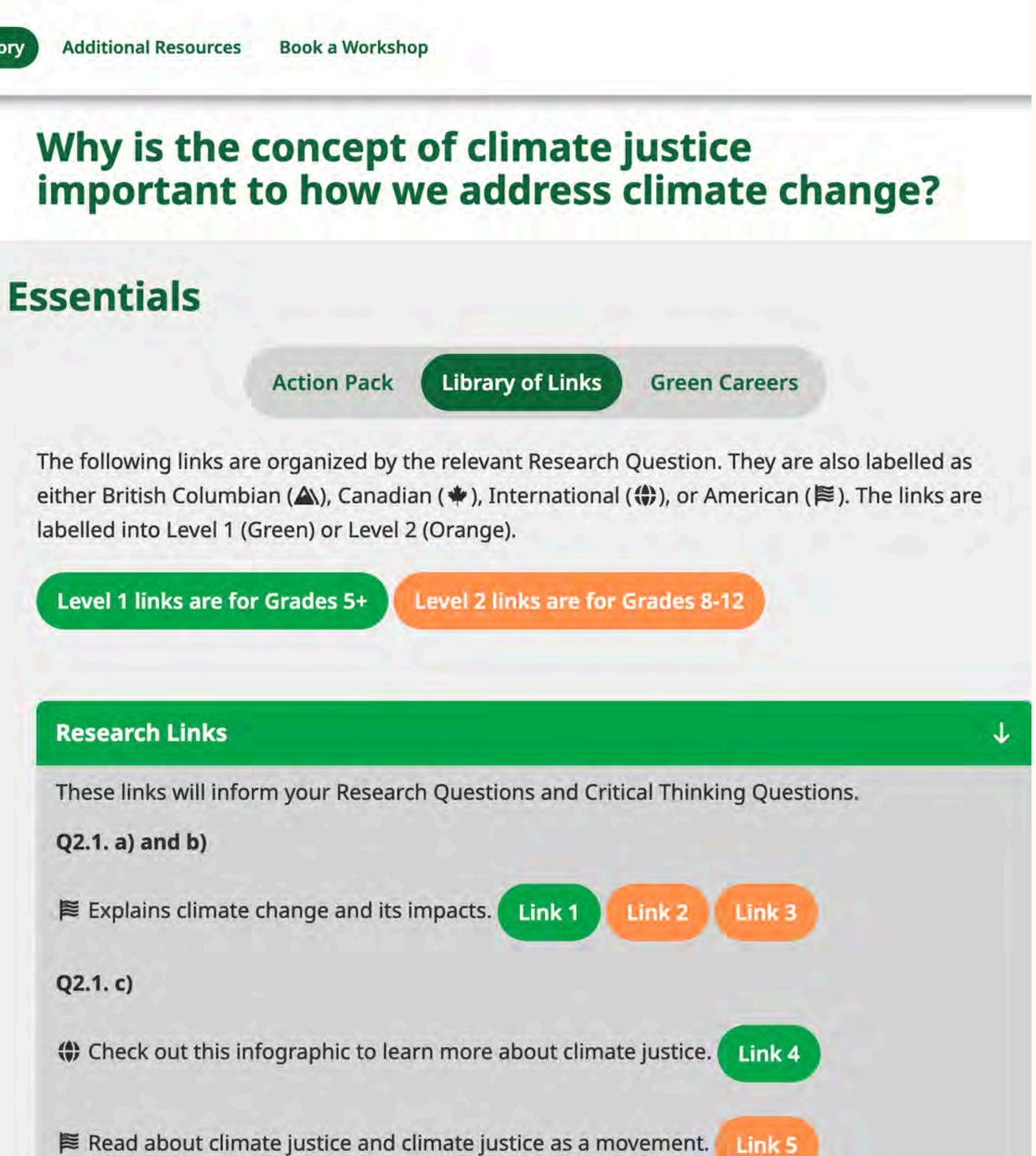
2. Global Research

Work through one research question with your group!

- Use the links displayed on the next slide to research question 2.1. in your Climate Justice Action Pack.
- As a group, research and work through it together.

After 10 minutes, share back with the class what you learned in your research.

- Anything surprising? Anything new?
- Did any feelings arise when learning about this topic?



BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

2. Global Research

Look up/use the Level 1 links below to answer question 2.1.

- **Link 1 (a/b):**
  - NASA Kids - A Guide to Climate Change
- **Link 4 (c):**
  - FOE Europe - Climate Justice Infographic

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

3. Creative Thinking

Good news! You helped achieve climate justice! How did you contribute to solving this issue? What does the world look like?

Draw or doodle your ideas! Consider the questions:

- What do people do differently than today?
- What do cities and nature look like?
- What are society's values? What are your own values?
- How do people feel?



1-3 people share back with the class what they envisioned in their drawing!

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Become a C4C Pilot Teacher!

As piloting teachers, you will:

- Create your own unique C4C Unit for your class, using all 9 Sections of C4C Action Packs
- Students complete the student survey
- You complete a pilot teacher survey

Why?

- Priority workshop booking
- In-class support
- Survey honoraria

Book a Consultation!

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Eco-Social Workshops

Be The Change offers a variety of classroom & outdoor workshops on topics including:

- Climate justice
- Habitat restoration
- Climate emotions
- Nature connection
- Climate storytelling
- Water & resource conservation
- Climate project mentorship
- C4C guided classroom implementation

Browse our programs!

BE THE CHANGE
EARTH ALLIANCE

Thank You!

Website:
bethechangeearthalliance.org

Phone:
604-269-9874

Instagram:
@bethechange_ea

Email:
admin@btcea.org