

CLOSE-up on climate

<http://fortheloveof.org.uk/closeup/>

Spring 2015 Action Guide



INTRODUCTION

In November 2015 the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change will meet in Paris.

This meeting has the opportunity to agree how the global community will finally tackle climate change, and the UK government has the potential to play a leading role in the negotiations. Recent COPs in Copenhagen, Cancun, Durban, Doha and Warsaw have failed to reach an effective agreement. 2015 can be different.

The poorest people around the world have been struggling with the effects of climate change for years now. Climate change ruins crops, disrupts growing seasons and destroys food stores, making people hungry and more vulnerable. People can't wait much longer for the global community to take action.

Between now and the 2015 COP, Oxfam and the Climate Coalition are asking the UK government to play its full part in pushing for an ambitious agreement in Paris. To achieve this goal we need your help.

Politicians won't take action unless we show them this issue is important to us. The Climate Coalition represents 100 organisations and 11 million supporters from around the UK. We're asking you to join us in making a short film calling for action on climate change.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- 1. Learn about the effects of climate change and plan your 'Close-up on Climate' film.** Go to page 2.
- 2. Make your film and get it uploaded at** <http://fortheloveof.org.uk/closeup/>. Go to page 3.
- 3. Show or send your film to your MP, MSP or AM.** Go to page 4.



What might Downing Street look like if we don't take action on climate change?
Photo: Andy Hall/Oxfam

For support with taking action, get in touch with Oxfam's Education & Youth Team:
education@oxfam.org.uk



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Crops are threatened by climate change.

Photo: Jane Beesley/Oxfam

1. Learn about climate change and plan your Close-up on Climate film

You may already have been learning about climate change in lessons, or maybe you've participated in a project or a campaign. If so that's great! However, if you'd like a recap of the main ideas then you'll find the presentation and workshop activities in this resource useful. Just make sure you don't begin your planning without thinking about the issues first.

Isn't making a film really complicated?

Making a film doesn't have to be complicated. You just need to think clearly about what you want to say before you begin. Into Film have great tutorials to help you with [how to structure your film](#) and [how to storyboard](#).

You don't need an expensive camera or fancy equipment to make your film. [We've recommended some apps](#) to help you get great results from your phone or tablet camera. Remember it's your ideas and what you want to say that are important, not the quality of your camera.

What to do

STEP ONE

Download the 'Close-up on Climate' Powerpoint presentation and workshop.

At a group meeting two or three of you should show the presentation and do the workshop with the rest of the group. This takes around 1 hour.

Ask for help if there are points you don't understand. Rewrite the script and activities so they make sense for you. Remember you'll be explaining it to other students so it has to make sense.

STEP THREE

You're going to send or show your film to your MP, MSP or AM.

Decide the message you want to say to a decision maker. What do you want her or him to think, feel and do?

STEP TWO

Next think about lessons or projects about climate change you've already done. Decide the main points you want your film to make.

Your choice may be straightforward. If you've recently done a project or unit of work why not make a film about that?

If your choices require more careful thought try doing some of the activities in [Get Global](#) pgs 32-39

STEP FOUR

Finally begin to think about how your film will look and sound.

Try to make your film as clear and simple as possible. We've got great [planning tools](#) and [technical tips](#) from Into Film to help you.

The more planning you do before you click your camera the better your film will be!

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Photo: Into Film

2. Make your Close-up on Climate film and get it uploaded

The next stage is to begin to plan your film in greater detail, shoot and edit it. Remember it can be inspired by any topic or issue linked to climate change whether from lessons, extra curricular projects or something you wish to speak out about..

Film making isn't difficult. We've got lots of great tips about [filming](#), [sound](#) and [editing](#) to help you and if you're short of inspiration check out the [projects](#) you could feature in your film.

Please read this carefully

Your films are going to be online, so there are some rules and regulations you should be aware of when you begin. The first main one is that no one should be able to identify you by name or where you live in your film. So plan your script and titles carefully. The second is that you should be supervised by a teacher or responsible adult who will ensure that the film is uploaded properly and that you have your parents' permission to appear online. The final rule is that you mustn't use any copyright music in your soundtrack. This applies to any commercially available music, for example music from sites like i-tunes.

We've got lots of [copyright-free music](#) for you to choose from and you should read the projects [terms and conditions](#) as part of your planning.

Once you've finished ask a teacher or a responsible adult to fill in the [entry form](#) and submit your film. The deadline is **Friday 24 July 2015**.



What to do

STEP ONE

Your ideas should have come together and you should know what you want your film to say.

Make sure you've also read the project's [terms and conditions](#) (see 'please read this carefully' above).

Keep an eye on time. Your film should be between 2-3 minutes long and absolutely no longer than 5 minutes.

STEP THREE

Your teacher or other responsible adult should check that the project's [safeguarding guidelines](#) and [terms and conditions](#) have been followed.

STEP TWO

Start filming!

These tips from Into Film will help you plan [camera shots](#) and you should also consider the [role of the director](#).

Finally one thing that often goes wrong is [sound](#). A little bit of advance planning will help you get great results.

STEP FOUR

Finally ask your teacher for help with filling out the [entry form](#) and uploading your film to [vimeo](#). The deadline is Friday 24 July 2015.

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Swanlea School Youth Ambassadors meet their MP Rushanara Ali.

Photo: Eimear Daly/Swanlea School

3. Show or send your film to your MP, MSP or AM.

Finally, show or send your films to the politicians who are making the big decisions about climate change. This is an important year when lots is changing in politics—so politicians should be more open to listening to you!

Ideally you'll ask your political representative to meet you and show her or him your film. Alternatively you could send her or him a DVD copy of your film with a covering letter.

In England please contact your MP, in Scotland your MSP and in Wales either your MP or your AM.

The main point is to use your film as a powerful way to get your voice heard.

WHAT TO DO

STEP ONE

Make contact with your MP, MSP or AM to arrange a meeting. If you're contacting your MP wait until after the General Election on **May 7**. It's easy to find out who your political representatives are and how to contact them. Be prepared to follow up with a polite reminder if you don't receive a quick reply.

STEP THREE

If your political representative is unavailable to meet you, copy your film onto a DVD and post them it to her or him with a covering letter explaining your campaign.

STEP TWO

Plan the type of event you'd like to invite your political representative to. For example, it could be a large assembly or a smaller meeting. Or you could visit you're her or him in Parliament or the Assembly, or their constituency office.

Make sure your meeting is well organised, tightly scripted and creative. Rehearse with a teacher playing the role of your political representative so you can iron out any glitches before your big day.

STEP FOUR

Well done! We hope the campaign went really well. There are evaluation tools (pgs 64—71) to help you review your success.

Finally watch out for news of our exciting film event in the autumn and the opportunity to have your film produced by a professional film maker.

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