

THE EARTH NEEDS US



WORLD'S
LARGEST
LESSON



WORLD'S
LARGEST
LESSON

The World's Largest Lesson is a programme from Project Everyone dedicated to helping accomplish the global goals by creating easy to understand resources for to help educate young people.

As young people learning about the world around us, we believe the goals keep people aware of major issues in our society and what we can do to solve them.

This zine could have been about anything but we decided to do it about the environment, particularly marine life. This is because we feel like although everyone knows about climate change, it is not something that is taken seriously.

We also looked at the Youth Day theme for this year, which is Celebrating Ways #YouthLead as Agents of Change for the Global Goals, showcasing young people's resilience, resourcefulness, and leadership when it comes to creating a better world for all.

Alison Bellwood



We interviewed Alison Bellwood, Creator and Executive Director of The World's Largest Lesson.

We interviewed her about her views on the youth's role on making change.

The first question we asked was why the youth learning about climate change and nature is so important. She responded by saying that it is "critical that young people learn not just about climate change but the science and the causes and all of the possible implications of that".

"It is absolutely about learning or developing the skills to be able to understand the world, to be able to respond to it, to be able to innovate, to find solutions, to be able to work together, to find those solutions, and to implement them."

The second question we asked was why representing youth voices is important. Her response was "How on earth can they really make decisions without listening to your experience. And genuinely listening, I mean not just going "Oh, yeah" because it's not real. So your voice has got to be promoted, supported, and encouraged, but also genuinely included in decision making."

She also stated her opinion on the current state of our education system by saying "They've got no idea what it is like to be you sitting in a classroom with a tablet trying to work using technology when you might not have a good Wi-Fi system, and then you're trying to do some face to face learning at the same time. You're then trying to respond to an assessment system that is based on something from the 1950s."

"How on earth can they really make decisions without listening to your experience. And genuinely listening, I mean not just going "Oh, yeah" because it's not real. So your voice has got to be promoted, supported, and encouraged, but also genuinely included in decision making."

In just the first half of 2023, over 2.23 million hectares of forest was lost, and since 2010 the average amount of forest lost as a result of deforestation was about 4.7 million hectares.

Pollution is another major issue - 91% of our population breathe in polluted air every single day. Air pollution is so dangerous in fact, that it is a greater threat to life expectancy than smoking, HIV / AIDS, or even War.

In just the last 100 years, our planet has gotten more polluted than ever before. As of 2021, over 17 million tonnes of plastic is present in our oceans. This figure is projected to double or even triple by just 2040. Plastic alone kills hundreds of millions of marine animals every year.

Due to pollution, our waters are getting more acidic which threatens marine life and limits the ocean's capacity to moderate climate change, as the ocean absorbs about a quarter of global annual CO2 emissions.



Adopting Sustainable Lifestyles: Small Steps, Big Impact

Young people play a pivotal role in building a sustainable future. As informed and passionate advocates, we have the power to effect change through small yet impactful actions.

By reducing waste, conserving energy and water, supporting ethical products, and embracing sustainable transportation and diets, we can significantly lower our ecological footprint.

Our collective efforts to raise awareness, participate in community initiatives, and demand eco-friendly policies can drive widespread change.

As young individuals, we must recognize the importance of our voices in shaping a greener, healthier planet for generations to come.

Together, we can lead the charge toward sustainability and inspire others to join us in adopting eco-friendly practices in our daily lives. Start today to create a more sustainable future for us all.
#agenda2030

Written by Precious

In the last 70 years with the insensible industrialization that caused climate change, impacted the forests directly.

Just last year, 7.534.403 acres of wildfires were caused mostly by global warming and climate change.

Scientists emphasize that unless there is a decrease in the amount of greenhouse gas emissions, there won't be any prevention of wildfires and desertification.

However; we, teenagers and kids, can contribute to our world and environment by using electronic devices less, not leaving unnecessary chargers on plugs, using public transportation, eating vegetables and fruits during their season, and growing fruits or vegetables at home. Despite that, we can also change our light bulbs with LED lights, reduce water waste and use energy-efficient devices.

We should take action for our world and spread awareness no matter the age while there is still time. We should not forget that there is no Planet B!

Written By Ela, Turkey

Sustainable Living for Youth: Small Steps, Big Impact

In our quest for a sustainable world, young people have the power to make a significant difference through everyday actions.

Embracing eco-friendly practices not only benefits the environment but also empowers individuals to be agents of change. One practical step is conserving energy by turning off lights and appliances when not in use, reducing carbon emissions and saving valuable resources.

Furthermore, choosing plant-based diets over meat consumption can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as livestock agriculture contributes to environmental degradation.

By incorporating simple sustainable choices into daily routines, young people can inspire a profound positive impact.

Opting for public transportation or biking not only reduces pollution but also promotes healthier lifestyles. Embracing the principle of "reduce, reuse, and recycle" encourages creativity in repurposing items and minimizes waste.

Supporting eco-friendly fashion brands fosters a circular economy, contributing to fair labor practices and sustainable production.

Remember, each small step towards sustainability counts, and collectively, we can create a greener and more prosperous future.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." -said by Margaret Mead

Written by Trisha, India



Youth Power Surge: Shaping Tomorrow Together

I am Harini Kesamneni, UNICEF Student Ambassador. I am 16 years old with lots of passion and perseverance to solve global issues. I believe that the future in shaping tomorrow's growth is us, the youth. I have conducted the World's Largest Lesson for over 150 students. An endeavor to help the underprivileged understand the Sustainable Development Goals.

Youth are the architects of tomorrow, and their commitment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is crucial for a thriving future. Through the World's Largest Lesson, I empowered students with hands-on activities that unveil the significance of SDGs.

As a passionate individual, my dedication to serving society has driven me to initiate various service programs in school and become the CAS president. I firmly believe that knowledge dissemination and active participation in achieving global goals will pave the way for a sustainable and equitable world.

Together, as informed and engaged young minds, we can create lasting change, addressing issues like poverty, climate change, and inequality. By nurturing the potential of youth, we ensure a better world for generations to come.

Written by Harini, India



Bridging Empowerment and Sustainability: Āsarā's Journey Towards The Global Goals

Āsarā, sanskrit for aid, is a youth organization that believes in empowering women through education and access to menstrual hygiene products. We teach children in underprivileged schools how to make reusable sanitary pads and provide the necessary materials to make them.

Furthermore, by teaching children to make reusable pads, Āsarā keeps almost 400 pads per month out of landfills. This waste reduction aligns with Goals 12 and 13, as it lessens the environmental burden and carbon footprint associated with disposable products.

Āsarā connects to not only SDG 13 and 12 but also 3, 4, 5, 6, and 10 directly, and all 17 goals indirectly. This year we've hit the halfway mark on the SDG goals, and it's vital that we reach these goals, not only because they are a roadmap for global cooperation, but also because they ensure a sustainable future. The importance of sustainability to me goes beyond just the present.

To me, it is hope for the future because, without sustainable practices, we would have no environment for the future to thrive in.

Written by Ridhi, India

Outdoor Learning - The Key In Order To Save The World

Green Education encourages eco-awareness and prevents climate change's global repercussions through cultivating environmental consciousness in students. This goes well with Outdoor Learning, promoting inclusive, outdoor activities for improved well-being and environmental awareness.

Environmental education had a huge impact on me because it enhanced my critical thinking. Outdoor Learning made me critical of both myself and society. I recognized leadership in myself and a personal mission to save the planet. Recognizing the significance of Climate

Education will improve your decision-making, research skills, and problem-solving. Outdoor education boosts critical self-reflection and a passion for a sustainable world from a young age.

Outdoor education, including environmental education, inspires climate change awareness and action. I am living proof of this. I also see it presented in my school.

This article is for those youth out there that have or need Climate Education and also for the parents, institutions and governments to promote this methodology.

Written by Ariana, Peru

**“Adopting Sustainable Lifestyles: Small Steps, Big Impact”:
Offer practical tips and advice on how young people like yourselves
can incorporate sustainable practices into their daily lives.**

Here at Liceo Los Cabos we are very conscious when it comes to living a more sustainable life. We practice this daily by implementing and understanding the importance of recycling, reusing, and reducing. Plastic pollution is a big issue that we discuss at Liceo Los Cabos.

Throughout the years our students have come up with ways on cutting down on single plastic use. Here are a few simple ways that we can help our communities and our environment as a whole. One way is to use reusable bags when you shop. Another way is to ditch single-use water bottles, bags and straws, and avoid products made from or packaged in plastic whenever possible. If we collectively do this globally, we believe that we can make a difference!

~ Change starts with today

Written by Liceo Los Cabos students, Mexico



Bridging Empowerment and Sustainability: Āsarā's Journey Towards The Global Goals

How did you spend your summer? Were you in an air-conditioned room? Or were you using a fan or the breeze?

Until last year, my family closed all the windows and stayed inside with the air conditioner blasting. This year, our electricity consumption decreased by 21% compared to last year. We open the windows to stay cool!

Let me explain. First, we use fans. We don't put them inside, but outside on the balcony to get cooler air in. Second, we splash water on the balcony. It is called "uchimizu" in Japanese. It makes the wind cooler and also flow into the house. Just these two things lowers the temperature 3 to 4 degrees Celsius!

These ideas are from old Japanese culture when there was no air conditioning. I think a sustainable idea is for you to use the culture of your country to be cool in summer!

Written by Noah, Japan



Are you a complainer?

Congratulations, you are also a problem solver!

Why is it so hot?.... Ew! Why is this place so dirty?.... Think about the last time you complained about something. I am sure it was not so long ago.

Our world today has given us a lot of things we can complain about. Be it the forest fires raging in your nation, A cloudburst up north, Smoggy skies which led to schools closing, a littered park, a smelly lake or even a desolate rainy day destroying the summers.

Guess what, I am not going to tell you to stop complaining, Complaining about something is actually a step in the right direction. You have already identified the problem. Now, It's your chance to do something about it. For example, Instead of just thinking about the fact that your park is dirty, Understand where the rubbish comes from, can you start segregating waste, recycling waste? Can you create a smart bin which identifies what type of waste is present and segregates it itself. Can you get together with your friends, grab some garbage bags and actually clean up the park? Could you make a solar powered robot which goes around collecting garbage from the ground? The solutions are endless.

The next time you are upset with how your locale looks, your surroundings smell or how your environment feels just think about what you can do to make it better. You are an advanced complainer, you are an innovator.

Remember small steps from every person in the world compound to make an impact worth 8 billion small ones, a really huge impact.

As Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Be the change you want to see in the world"

Written by Tanashi

How To Make Seed Bombs

You will need:

- **Water**
- **Large bowl**
- **Compost**
- **Assorted seeds of your choice**
- **Powdered clay**



Method

- **Mix together seeds and compost with a ratio of 1:5**
- **Add three cups of powdered clay**
- **Mix in water with your hands until everything sticks together**
- **Roll it into balls and leave them to dry**
- **Throw the bombs into your garden and watch them grow!**