

Visions of Tomorrow: Creating Films for a Sustainable Future

Lesson Plan: Create a 1-minute film about the future you want to see using the Open Planet library.

Objective: Students will explore Open Planet's library of footage to craft a compelling 1-minute film that envisions the future they want to see.

Target age group: 14+ years old

Duration: 2 lessons (90mins total) + homework

Resources needed:

- Computers with internet access.
 - Video editing software.
 - Access to openplanet.org.
 - Projector and screen.
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At World's Largest Lesson, we believe that storytelling has the power to inspire change and drive progress toward achieving the SDGs. That's why we've partnered with Open Planet to offer you and your students the resources and tools to create engaging, meaningful stories about nature and the environment. Together, we aim to empower young people to tell compelling stories that spark action and raise awareness about the world around us.

[Open Planet](https://openplanet.org) is an award-winning, free-to-use and open-source library offering over 13,000 cinematic clips depicting the challenges and solutions related to climate change, nature, and humanity.

Teacher guidance - Navigating the Open Planet platform:

1. Accessing the library:

- Visit openplanet.org to explore the extensive collection of footage.

2. Browsing and searching for clips:

- Use the search bar to find specific themes or locations.
- Explore [featured collections](#) that align with various environmental topics.

3. Creating an account:

- While browsing doesn't require an account, signing up allows you to download clips and curate personal collections.
- **We recommend that each teacher creates one account for the entire class to use and each student creates their own collection within the account to add relevant clips for their films**
- **Alternatively, students can sign up using their own email address**

Lesson Overview:

Lesson 1:

1. Setting up and navigating the Open Planet platform

- Explain to your class that this lesson is all about creative storytelling.
- Share that their objective will be to create a 1-minute film that tells a powerful story about the future they envision.
- Show them the Open Planet platform and explain that the library serves as a resource for educators, students, changemakers and storytellers globally aiming to create impactful narratives about our planet's future.

2. Planning the 1-minute film

- Ask students to close their eyes and imagine the future 10 years from now.
Ask them:
What does it look like?
What does it sound like?
What does it feel like?
What is nature like?
What animals do you see?
- In pairs, students share and discuss their vision of the future.
- Then, individually, students will sketch or outline their storyboard, ensuring a coherent narrative that fits within the 1-minute timeframe.
- If students need inspiration, we recommend encouraging them to focus on key themes including; **biodiversity conservation (nature, oceans, forests, animals), community resilience, renewable energy.**

OPTIONAL:

- Students draft a script or narration that complements their storyboard. They can start their script with ***“The future I see looks/sounds/feels like....”***

Homework:

3. Selecting footage for the film

- Share the Open Planet log-in details with your class.
- Students will browse the Open Planet library to find clips that match or resonate with their envisioned narrative.

- Students can start by browsing the library:
<https://openplanet.org/browse/>
- Or the featured collections: <https://openplanet.org/collections/>
- When downloading clips, students should download in the format shown as “best for digital / social use” (often HD MP4). This will ensure they are not downloading very large files on their computers.

4. Creating the film

- Introduce students to user-friendly video editing tools such as iMovie, CapCut, Adobe Spark, Vimeo, or any preferred software.
- Students will import selected clips from Open Planet, and arrange clips according to their storyboard.
- Students should stick to 1 minute and review their films for coherence, visual appeal and alignment with the intended message.
- Here are two examples you can share with your students:
<https://vimeo.com/1037442193>
<https://vimeo.com/1037443247>
- For more inspiration, students can also explore other content created using Open Planet here: <https://openplanet.org/inspiration/>

Lesson 2:

5. Sharing and reflection

- Organise a viewing session where each student presents their film to the class.
- Discuss the diverse visions presented.
- To facilitate the discussion, encourage students to think about the following:
 - ***Creativity & originality:*** Innovative portrayal of a sustainable future.
 - ***Coherent narrative:*** Clear and engaging storyline within the 1-minute limit.
 - ***Effective use of footage:*** Appropriate selection and integration of clips from Open Planet.
 - ***Technical execution:*** Quality of editing, including transitions and audio.
 - ***Reflection:*** Demonstrated understanding of the storytelling process and the themes presented.

Crediting Open Planet is not necessary for making videos in the classroom but if films are being shared publicly, please credit Open Planet by noting 'Images are freely available at OpenPlanet.org'. If you are restricted on space, at minimum please reference Open Planet as a source.

We'd love to see your students' creations! Please share them with us on lesson@project-everyone.org and enquiries@openplanet.org!