



IO1 – Climate Change
Awareness
Compendium of
Comedy and Learning
Lesson Plan



FARCE!

Using Satire and Comedy to Promote
Climate Change Awareness



Introduction to the Lesson Plan

The aim of this lesson plan is to support you, as a community and adult educator, to deliver a session using the FARCE Climate Change Awareness – Compendium of Comedy and Learning resources, with adult learners in your group. Through this lesson plan, we will provide you with some sample activities that you can use to deliver one of the Comedy Resources from this Compendium in a group-work setting. When preparing to deliver these activities in your group, it is important that you are prepared to use the Comedy for Climate Change resources. For this, we recommend that you complete the relevant modules from our FARCE In-service Training Programme, before delivering these activities in your practice.

Introduction to the Climate Change topic

Forests store large amounts of carbon. Trees and other plants absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as they grow. This is converted into carbon and stored in the plant's branches, leaves, trunks, roots and in the soil.

When forests are cleared or burnt, stored carbon is released into the atmosphere, mainly as carbon dioxide.

Whilst forests are important carbon sinks, meaning they draw down carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, the carbon stored in these sinks is part of an active, relatively quick carbon cycle. As living things (including trees) die and decay, the carbon that they once stored is released back into the atmosphere.

By contrast, carbon stored underground in the form of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas, is much more stable, and is part of a much slower carbon cycle. Without the influence of humans burning these fossil fuels for energy, this carbon would be unlikely to reach the atmosphere. When fossil fuels are burned, carbon from dead and decayed plants, animals and phytoplankton that lived hundreds of millions of years ago (before dinosaurs existed), is released into the atmosphere in the form of carbon dioxide.

Burning fossil fuels, in combination with destruction of carbon sinks due to deforestation and other activities, has contributed to more and more carbon dioxide building up in the atmosphere – more than can be absorbed from existing carbon sinks such as forests. The build-up of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is driving global warming, as it traps heat in the lower atmosphere. Carbon dioxide levels are now at their highest in human history.





It is not effective to “offset” greenhouse gas pollution from burning fossil fuels by storing carbon in forests. This is because fossil fuels are pumping much more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere than existing forests can absorb. At the same time, carbon stores in forests and other natural carbon sinks will become increasingly unstable as climate change progresses. Droughts, tropical storms, heatwaves and fire weather are increasing in severity and frequency because of climate change. This will continue to result in increases in forest losses, contributing to more and more carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere.

<https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/deforestation/>

Getting to know the Resources

In this section, we will provide you with a brief introduction to the Comedy Resource that you will use in when delivering this lesson plan in a group of adult learners.

What is covered in the Comedy Resource?

For the topic Deforestation we decided to choose the format of animated sketch. Animation is a method in which figures are manipulated to appear as moving images. In traditional animation, images are drawn or painted by hand on transparent celluloid sheets to be photographed and exhibited on film. Today, most animations are made with computer-generated imagery (CGI). Computer animation can be very detailed 3D animation, while 2D computer animation (which may have the look of traditional animation) can be used for stylistic reasons, low bandwidth, or faster real-time renderings. Other common animation methods apply a stop motion technique to two and three-dimensional objects like paper cutouts, puppets, or clay figures.

Our animated sketch Wheel of fortune is inspired by slot clubs and their popularity in Serbia. We used a character of an ordinary man who finds joy playing slot machines and mixes it with the deforestation problem which is very common in Serbia.

There are 4162 clubs in Serbia (slot clubs and casinos), of which there are 1850 betting shops and 2 casinos. The total number of slot machines in February 2018 is 27,363.

According to Global Forest Watch, Serbia lost 52.8kha of tree cover from 2001 to 2019, equivalent to a 1.9% decrease in tree cover since 2000. The loss of forest cover can be attributed to illegal forest cutting, uncontrolled livestock grazing and forest fires. In 2020, the environmental initiative Do Not Let Belgrade D(r)own launched a petition against cutting down of trees in the Košutnjak forest. The petition was signed by over 70 000 people.

We found that the animated sketch is a very good format for this topic because it gives us a lot of opportunities to transfer an issue in less than a minute. Also the animated sketch corresponds well with children and we have to teach them from an early age to keep the





forests.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animationhttp://>

[/www.jakta.rs/en/2018/02/serbian-gambling-market-in-numbers/](http://www.jakta.rs/en/2018/02/serbian-gambling-market-in-numbers/)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_issues_in_Serbia

Applying this Comedy Resource

This Comedy Recourse is posing the question: are we humans depending on luck or can we do something about climate injustice? Who are we as citizens? Do we need a superhero to save our planet or can we do it by ourselves?

Due to that question we have decided to run a debate. **Debate** is a process that involves formal discourse on a particular topic, often including a moderator and audience. In a debate, arguments are put forward for often opposing viewpoints. Debates have historically occurred in public meetings, academic institutions, debate halls, coffeehouses, competitions, and legislative assemblies. Debate has also been conducted for educational and recreational purposes, usually associated with educational establishments and **debating societies**. These debates put an emphasis upon logical consistency, factual accuracy, and some emotional appeal to an audience. Modern forms of competitive debate also include rules for participants to discuss and decide upon the framework of the debate (how the debate will be judged).

Debating in various forms has a long history and can be traced back to the philosophical and political debates of Ancient Greece, such as Athenian democracy or Shastrarth in Ancient India.

A debate is a structured argument. Two sides speak alternately for and against a particular contention usually based on a topical issue. Unlike the arguments you might have with your family or friends however, each person is allocated a time they are allowed to speak for and any interjections are carefully controlled. The subject of the dispute is often prearranged so you may find yourself having to support opinions with which you do not normally agree. You also have to argue as part of a team, being careful not to contradict what others on your side have said.

Why debate?





It is an excellent way of improving speaking skills and is particularly helpful in providing experience in developing a convincing argument. Those of you who are forced to argue against your natural point of view realize that arguments, like coins, always have at least two sides.

One of the most difficult skills for teachers to acquire is how to move away from structured routines and lead disciplined improvisation in education where the students partially guide the direction of the class. Teacher students need routines, but they also need to learn how to flexibly apply them.

Lesson Plan

Title of Session:		Wheel of Fortune - deforestation
Duration		Resources Required:
This lesson plan will take 60 minutes to deliver		To deliver this lesson plan, you will require the following resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • projector • laptop • papers and pens
Learning Outcomes		
On successful completion of this lesson, learners will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve their communication skills • Understand different point of view • To concisely and clearly express complex issues is what debating is all about 		
Workshop Opening		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Support Materials
10 minutes	Facilitator asks participants to sit/stand in a circle.	





	<p>Facilitator explains the game: Look at the point in front of you at eye level, 1 to 2 minutes. Fix the gaze.</p> <p>As you look at the point above the eyes, slowly expand your attention 180°(peripheral vision), noticing other things around that point, without shifting the focus. We see everything around us more and more. Focus on the sound around you. We hear everything around us more and more.</p> <p>While looking at the point above the eyes, slowly expand your attention 360 °. Expanding your awareness about the space around you (even behind).</p> <p>While looking at the point above the eyes, imagine that you have a tennis ball (30-50 cm) above and behind your head. Take your time, breathe. See or feel the tennis balls.</p> <p>As you look at the point above your eyes and your attention is 360 ° and on the balls above and behind your head start lowering your gaze to eye level. Focus on different points around you, keeping the balls, and full attention on surroundings. You can walk around the space focusing on different points in the space.</p> <p>This is a learning condition and gained full focus.</p>	
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Group Activity 1

Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Support Materials
20 minutes	<p>Debate</p> <p>Divide participants in two groups. Each group gives the group a name of a superhero or villain (Choose the favorite one). One group is dealing</p>	<p>https://www.sfu.ca/cmns/130d1/HOWTODEBATE.htm</p>





	<p>with the topic of tree/forest importance, the other one is dealing with the topic of deforestation for business reasons.</p> <p>Research what you need for good debating, check the link.</p> <p>Each group has 20 minutes to find arguments for their topic.</p> <p>Choose the leader of the group who will represent the arguments.</p> <p>Educator will be the moderator and time keeper.</p>	
Group Activity 2		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Support Materials
20 minutes	Create a debate and fight for your arguments.	
Workshop Close		
Duration	Description of Activity	Links to Evaluation Survey
10 minutes	After finishing, discuss who was better, why, and what you can learn from each other, why you have chosen the specific superhero or villain.	





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CREATIVE EXCHANGE



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