

FORMAT		
1. Name of resource	Greening Curriculum Guidance: teaching and learning for climate action	
2. Location	https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000390022	
3. Alternative location		
4. Author[s]	UNESCO	
5. Publisher/producer/host	UNESCO	
6. Year	2024	
7. Suggested citation	UNESCO (2024). Greening Curriculum Guidance: teaching and learning for climate action. UNESCO, available at https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000390022	
8. Languages in which available	English	
9. Geographic area resource relates to	Global	
10. Does the resource relate to a specific time frame?		
11. Type	Report	
	Toolkit/Framework/Roadmap	Yes
	Sign-post to other resource (database)	
	Case studies	Yes
	Other	Lesson/activity plans
12. Part of an initiative?	Education 2030, and Greening Education Partnership	
COLLECTIONS AND COLLECTIONS-BASED INSTITUTIONS		
13. Explicit links to collections	No	
14. Explicit links to museums/libraries/archives	Yes	
15. Types of institutions relevant to	Museums	X
	Archives	X
	Libraries	X
	Other	X
16. Does the resource relate to specific disciplines?	Arts, humanities and social sciences: philosophy, psychology, religion, social sciences, law, politics, language, arts and recreation, architecture, literature, history, geography and ethnology,	X

	anthropology, archaeology	
	Science, natural history, technology, medicine, engineering, manufacturing	X
17. If no explicit links to collections, justification for inclusion	The resource can be used by collections-based institutions to plan their public programming, education and related activities drawing on collections to promote transformative climate-related education and learning.	
HOW IT CONTRIBUTES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		
18. Collections-related activities the resource relates to (mark all that apply)		
Develop collections to protect and safeguard wider cultural and natural heritage more effectively , for example by targeting collecting to threatened forms of heritage in strategic ways		
Use collections to promote learning and educational opportunities that contribute to sustainable development more effectively , for example education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development and/or skills development relating to collections		X
Use collections to promote cultural participation/social inclusion more effectively , for example by reducing barriers to participation, to ensure no-one is 'left behind'		
Use collections to promote sustainable tourism more effectively , for example by developing new products based on local cultural heritage, and/or considering the rights of stakeholder groups in relation to collections		
Use collections to support research that contributes to sustainable development (including all forms of personal and self-directed research at all levels that make use of stored collections) more effectively, for example by providing effective facilities, collections and information to meet researchers' needs		
Make decisions around collections that contribute to sustainable development more effectively		
i. employment (recruiting, staff training, staff safety)		X
ii. energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, reduction, monitoring and reporting		
iii. waste management and reduction of waste		
iv. transport (forms of transport, energy use)		
v. commercial activities including copyright and IP		
vi. governance and management		
vii. security, disaster preparedness and risk reduction		

Direct external leadership, partnerships and collaborations towards sustainable development more effectively , for example by developing impactful partnerships	X
19. Does the resource relate clearly to any international conventions (mark all that apply)?	
Culture conventions:	
1952, 71 Protection of Copyright and Neighbouring Rights	
1954 Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict	
1970 Fighting Against the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property	
1972 Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	X
2001 Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage	
2003 Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage	
2005 Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions	
Rio Conventions:	
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	X
AIMS AND CONTENT	
20. What issues does the resource aim to address?	<p> “Education is a powerful tool to transform the world and drive long-long-term climate change action. This Guidance responds to the calls from young people for a holistic approach to climate change and sustainability in the curriculum. It outlines a common language on how quality climate change and sustainability can be reflected in the curriculum by setting expected learning outcomes per age group (from 5-yearolds and up to 18+ age group, including a lifelong learning approach). This is crucial for accelerating country-level action and ensuring joint monitoring of progress. The objective is to have 90 per cent of all countries include climate change in their curricula by 2030, as established by the Greening Education Partnership. This Guidance aims to support countries, schools or individual practitioners in reassessing their ongoing practices to adopt a more action-oriented, holistic, scientifically accurate, justice-driven and lifelong learning approach to climate change.” </p> <p> “The Guidance is intended to: </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide a clear understanding of greening education and clarify the desired positive outcomes; ● Promote an understanding of the need for greening education programmes by raising awareness of relevant climate change and sustainable development issues and concerns that impact humans and the living world;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide guidance on how to develop evidence-informed, age- and developmentally-appropriate curricula, teaching and learning materials and programmes that are culturally relevant and locally acceptable to assist policy-makers, educators, and curriculum developers; ● Ultimately, increase educators' preparation and enhance institutional capacity to provide high-quality greening education."
21. Intended audience of resource	[Educators and people organizing education and learning addressing climate change and its impacts.]
22. Process of development	<p>"The Guidance was developed on the basis of young people's demands, through a process designed to ensure quality, acceptability and ownership at the international level, and with input from experts and practitioners from different regions around the world. At the same time, it should be noted that the Guidance recognizes the diversity of different national and local contexts in which learning takes place, and the authority of governments to determine the content of educational curricula in their country.</p> <p>This publication is based on a review of evidence and current practices. The authors comprised experts from across the globe, working in the fields of education, climate change, sustainable development, human rights, and gender equality. UNESCO and the Working Group 2 of the Greening Education Partnership also worked with numerous organizations, networks and specialists in reviewing and piloting earlier drafts of the Guidance. These networks included researchers, ministry of education officials, young people, NGO programme implementers and other partners." (p.24)</p>
23. Organisation/structure/ contents	<p>Foreword 5 Acknowledgements 6 List of abbreviations 10 List of tables 11 List of boxes 11 List of figures 11 Glossary of terms 12 Section 1: Introduction 17 1.1. Context, objective and rationale 18 1.2. How to use the Guidance, structure and intended audiences 20 1.3. Key principles of greening education 21 1.4. Methodology 24 Section 2: General strategies for greening education 25 What should we learn to get climate-ready? 27</p>

	<p>2.1. Greening education should address cognitive, social and emotional learning and taking action. 27</p> <p>2.2. Greening education should be contextualized. 29</p> <p>How should we learn to get climate-ready? 30</p> <p>2.3. Learner-centred, experiential, and reflective ways of learning are critical. 30</p> <p>2.4. Diverse aspects of climate change should be taught across subjects. 32</p> <p>2.5. Assessment of learners' progress should also be holistic. 34</p> <p>Where should we learn to get climate-ready? 36</p> <p>2.6. Schools and learning institutions are important learning environments for climate change and young people should have more say in decision-making on climate actions. 36</p> <p>2.7. Greening education within and with the community adds meaning and brings change. 37</p> <p>Section 3: Key concepts, topics, and learning outcomes 41</p> <p>3.1. Domains, key concepts and topics 42</p> <p>3.2. An overview of expected learning outcomes across different education levels 44</p> <p><i>Early childhood development 45</i></p> <p><i>Primary school 45</i></p> <p><i>Lower secondary 46</i></p> <p><i>Upper secondary 47</i></p> <p><i>The above 18 age group 48</i></p> <p><i>Technical and Vocational Education and Training 48</i></p> <p>3.3. Learning domains 49</p> <p>3.4. Integrated, cross-disciplinary approach 50</p> <p>Key concept 1: Climate science 51</p> <p>Topic 1.1. Weather, climate and climate change 53</p> <p>Topic 1.2. Greenhouse gases 55</p> <p>Topic 1.3. The carbon cycle 57</p> <p>Topic 1.4. The water cycle 60</p> <p>Topic 1.5. Avoiding pollution and conserving resources 62</p> <p>Topic 1.6. Renewable energy 65</p> <p>Key concept 2: Ecosystems and biodiversity 67</p> <p>Topic 2.1. Natural environments: ecosystems and biodiversity (land and ocean) 69</p> <p>Topic 2.2. The evolution of biodiversity over time and in the future 71</p> <p>Topic 2.3. Ecosystems, biodiversity and ecosystem services 73</p> <p>Topic 2.4. Human relation to nature: domestication and agriculture 75</p>
--	---

	<p>Topic 2.5. Human-induced biodiversity loss and its consequences 77</p> <p>Topic 2.6. Reconnecting to nature and protecting it 79</p> <p>Key concept 3: Climate justice 83</p> <p>Topic 3.1. Contemporary manifestations 85</p> <p>Topic 3.2. Social determinants 88</p> <p>Topic 3.3. Historic economic and political processes 92</p> <p>Topic 3.4. Transformed futures 97</p> <p>Key concept 4: Resilience-building 103</p> <p>Topic 4.1. Social impacts of climate change 105</p> <p>Topic 4.2. Navigating climate impacts: strategies for safety and resilience 107</p> <p>Topic 4.3. Climate anxiety and constructive coping 110</p> <p>Topic 4.4. Strength in interconnectedness 112</p> <p>Topic 4.5. Urgency and community action 115</p> <p>Topic 4.6. Tackling climate mis/disinformation 117</p> <p>9</p> <p>Table of contents</p> <p>Key concept 5: Post-carbon economies 121</p> <p>Topic 5.1. Economic growth and development 123</p> <p>Topic 5.2. The circular economy and everyday life 128</p> <p>Topic 5.3. Climate change and our economies 130</p> <p>Topic 5.4. Energy consumption and carbon emissions 133</p> <p>Topic 5.5. Our roles in a post-carbon economy 136</p> <p>Key concept 6: Sustainable lifestyles 139</p> <p>Topic 6.1. Engagement with nature 141</p> <p>Topic 6.2. Renewable energy use 143</p> <p>Topic 6.3. Responsible consumption 145</p> <p>Topic 6.4. Sustainable living spaces 147</p> <p>Topic 6.5. Sustainable mobility 149</p> <p>Topic 6.6. Sustainable diets 151</p> <p>Topic 6.7. Sustainable waste practices 153</p> <p>Section 4: Implementation of the greening curriculum guidance 155</p> <p>Step 1. Review existing education policies for footholds and rationales for strengthening the presence of greening education in the curriculum. 157</p> <p>Step 2. Establish and ensure inclusive participation of stakeholders in the curriculum development process, including youth and community members. 159</p> <p>Step 3. Decide on curricular strategies for infusing greening education within and across subjects and grade levels in schools, as well as recommendations for the non-formal education sector. 161</p> <p>Step 4. Develop a detailed curriculum that ensures action-oriented learner outcomes, including the use of transformative and ‘place-based’ pedagogy. 166</p>
--	---

	<p>Step 5. Prepare and pilot sample instructional resources within and across subject areas to test the new curriculum and solicit feedback from numerous stakeholders, especially youth. 168</p> <p>Step 6. Finalize, produce and distribute learning resources, including suggestions for assessment, with an associated communication and publicity strategy. 169</p> <p>Step 7. Provide substantive orientation to greening education for textbook writers, examination board staff and other stakeholders, and obtain any necessary approvals. 170</p> <p>Step 8. Provide educators with quality pre- and in-service training and continuous professional development opportunities, in cooperation with higher education institutions and CSOs. 171</p> <p>Step 9. Implement the Guidance through whole-institution approaches and strengthen partnerships between schools, CSOs, municipal authorities and the private sector to implement greening education. 172</p> <p>Step 10. Monitor and assess the results of education programming on climate change competencies in an ongoing manner. 174</p> <p>References 176</p> <p>Annex: Key competencies for sustainability 182</p>
FRAMEWORKS	
<p>Framework structure</p>	<p>Empowering: It supports learners’ empowerment, self-efficacy and agency by improving their analytical, communication, and other skills, and by supporting the acquisition of relevant knowledge and values for sustainable development and addressing climate change.</p> <p>Learner-centred: The pedagogy (e.g. critical, participatory, problem-oriented, learner-centred and experiential approaches) allows students to actively participate in learning processes, critically engage with personal experiences and their natural environment, and construct their own understanding.</p> <p>Career-related: It incorporates practices or ideas that can be applied to career choices and workplace practices.</p> <p>Transformative: It contributes to collective society-wide, local and global efforts to change human behaviour, systems and underlying causes and root drivers of climate change.</p> <p>Based on a human rights approach: It builds on and promotes an understanding of universal human rights – including the rights of children and young people – and the rights of all persons to health, education, information</p>

equality and non-discrimination. Using a human rights-based approach, within education addressing climate change, also involves raising awareness among young people, encouraging them to recognize their own rights, acknowledge and respect the rights of others, and advocate for those whose rights are violated.

Based on gender equality: It addresses the different ways that gender norms can influence inequality, and how these inequalities can affect vulnerabilities to climate change.

Based on inter-generational equity: It develops a notion that ensures the rights and obligations of future generations while maintaining those of the present generation.

Based on intra-cultural equity: It develops a vision of environmental, economic, and social justice and fairness across communities and cultures within the current generation.

Scientifically accurate: The content is based on evidence related to climate change and sustainable development.

Conveys urgency: Greening education stresses the urgency of adequately addressing the growing climate emergency.

Age- and developmentally-appropriate: The content is responsive to the evolving capabilities of the child and young person as they grow.

Indigenous-influenced: Indigenous knowledge and perspectives are incorporated within education, especially from indigenous groups who are locally based.

Balanced: Cognitive, social and emotional, and behavioural learning dimensions are addressed in a balanced manner to ensure a holistic approach to greening education.

Comprehensive: It provides opportunities to acquire comprehensive, accurate, evidence-informed and age-appropriate information on sustainable development and climate change over time and throughout a learner's formal, non-formal and informal (e.g. museums and libraries) education, and including TVET.

Lifelong: This is a continuing educational process that starts at an early age, and where new information builds upon previous learning, using a spiral-curriculum approach.

Culturally relevant and context appropriate: It fosters learning outcomes that are relevant to local climate change challenges and solutions, and cultural structures

	<p>and norms that affect people's choices in addressing sustainable development and climate change.</p> <p>Inclusive: Greening education involves a range of actors from inside and outside education, including experts, parents, community members and local leaders who bring alternative perspectives, new skills, intergenerational and indigenous knowledge to understand climate challenges and solutions.</p> <p>Institution-wide: Greening education principles are integrated throughout the learning environment, affecting the organization-wide culture and practices.</p>
24. Relevant policy considerations	Yes
25. Resources for implementation identified	Yes
26. Specific assessment points/indicators/milestones/action plan for monitoring	Yes
27. ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY COVERED BY RESOURCE (mark all that apply)	
People (social sustainability)	X
Planet (environmental sustainability)	X
Prosperity (economic sustainability)	X
Peace	X
Partnerships	X
28. CROSS-CUTTING CONSIDERATIONS COVERED BY RESOURCE (mark all that apply)	
Gender perspectives	X
North and South perspectives	X
HOW THE RESOURCE CONTRIBUTES TO AGENDA 2030 AND THE SDGs	
HOW AGENDA 2030 AND THE SDGs FEATURE IN THE RESOURCE	
29. SDGs and Agenda 2030 specifically mentioned?	Yes
30. SDGs specifically mentioned?	Yes
31. SDG targets specifically mentioned?	Yes
32. SDG indicators specifically mentioned?	No
SDGs AND SDG TARGETS AND LINKAGES	
33. Comments on SDG linkages	The resource can help support action for SDG targets relating to education related to climate change, including 4.4 (staff skills), 4.7 (education for Sustainable development), 12.8 (information for sustainable

	development and lifestyles in harmony with nature), 13.3 (education and awareness for climate mitigation, adaptation and risk reduction), 17.16 and 17.17 (global and more local partnerships respectively). Stakeholder consultation in curriculum development and revision supports SDG 16.7 (inclusive decision making), as well as 17.17. Implementing the framework can support many further SDG targets.
34. SDGs and SDG targets the resource helps advance	
<p>SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship</p>	<p>Number of young people and adults in skills-development activities and programmes drawing on collections, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship</p> <p>Increase in number of young people and adults in such programmes</p> <p>Number and proportion of staff who have received training in the last year, to better support their contribution to the SDGs.</p> <p>Programs and processes in place to ensure the availability of a skilled workforce</p>
<p>SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development</p>	<p>Numbers of people in each type of programme drawing on collections from different demographic groups.</p> <p>Increases in numbers of people in each type of programme from different demographic groups.</p> <p>Proportion of people involved in such programmes in relation to overall audience size.</p> <p>Evidence that learners have acquired knowledge and skills to promote sustainable development.</p>
<p>SDG 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p>	<p><i>12.8.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed</i></p>

<p>12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature</p>	<p><i>in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment</i></p> <p>Extent to which global citizenship education and education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed in formal, informal and non-formal education programmes and activities drawing on and related to collections.</p>
<p>SDG 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning</p>	<p>Plans in place to enhance positive contributions to addressing climate change through use of collections. Plans in place to ensure collections, collections institutions and broader society can adapt effectively to climate change.</p> <p>Plans in place for effective education and awareness raising on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.</p> <p>Plans in place to reduce negative contributions of collections-related functions, e.g. measuring greenhouse emissions with plans and targets in place to reduce them.</p>
<p>SDG 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels</p>	<p><i>16.7.1 Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, public service, and judiciary) compared to national distributions</i></p> <p><i>16.7.2 Proportion of population [audience/users/non-users] who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group</i></p> <p>Decision-making addresses societal, environmental and economic challenges related to the community, considering short-term and long-term risks and opportunities.</p> <p>Decision-making draws on diverse backgrounds, viewpoints and interests, reflecting a broad base of stakeholders, and working to promote inclusion and provide effective services for all of society.</p>
<p>SDG 17. Partnerships for the goals</p>	<p>Number and/or increase in number, and diversity of global and international multi-stakeholder partnerships that share collection-related knowledge, expertise,</p>

<p>17.16 Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries</p>	<p>technology and financial resources to address the SDGs, or that otherwise involve collections-based organisations and institutions.</p> <p>Number and/or increase in number, and diversity of global and international multi-stakeholder partnerships involving developing countries that share collection-related knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources to address the SDGs.</p>				
<p>SDG 17. Partnerships for the goals 17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships</p>	<p><i>17.17.1 Amount of United States dollars committed to public-private and civil society partnerships</i></p> <p>Number and/or increase in number, and diversity of local, national and regional multi-stakeholder (public, public-private and civil society) partnerships that address the SDGs drawing on collections, or that otherwise involve collections-based organisations and institutions.</p>				
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	