Experience Climate Change

AN OVERVIEW OF A GRC '18-'20 PROJECT BY: BRITTANIE GIROUX







COLLABORATING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Premise + Background

- Evanston is a North suburban city of 74,000 residents. This lakeshore community borders Chicago, Skokie, and Wilmette.
- Inducted as a GRC member in 2008.
- City Council passed the Climate Action & Resilience Plan in December of 2018. This plan contains 13 Focus Areas and over 140 actions for Climate Mitigation & Resilience.
- Outreach, Education, & Behavior Change is the focus area that this project falls under.

Goals of Activity

Share what climate impacts look and feel like locally

Understand what decisions the City needs to make, and how the students can contribute to mitigate these local impacts

Solicit feedback about participant priorities

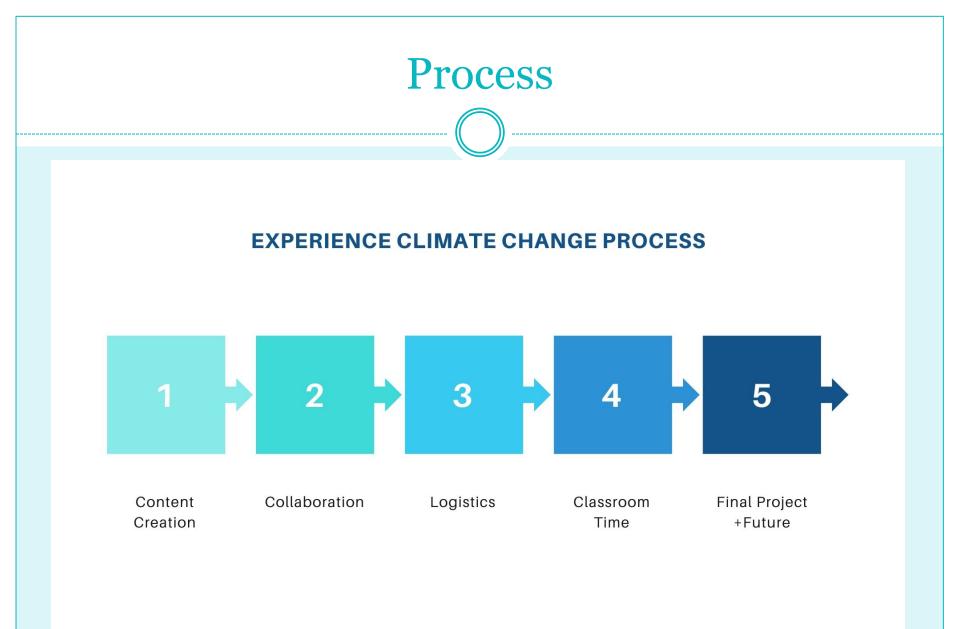
The Climate Mitigation section of the plan is split into six Focus Areas with corresponding Goals, Actions and Performance Metrics.

Focus Areas	Goals
Building Efficiency	Reduce building energy consumption by 35% by 2035 (from 2005 levels).
Renewable Energy	Achieve 100% renewable electricity supply for all Evanston accounts by 2030.
Zero Waste	Increase the community waste diversion rate to 50% by 2025, 75% by 2035 and Zero Waste by 2050 (from 2017 levels).
Transportation and Mobility	Reduce vehicle miles traveled; increase trips made by walking, bicycling and transit.
	Increase use of electric vehicles; decrease carbon emissions from vehicles and equipment.
Urban Canopy and Green Space	Preserve and restore Evanston's urban canopy, natural areas, native vegetation and green space to maintain and increase carbon sequestration, improve stormwater runoff detention, improve air quality, energy efficiency and livability and reduce adverse urban impacts on humans and key species such as birds and pollinators.
Outreach, Education and Behavior Change	Educate, motivate and empower Evanston residents, institutions and businesses to take meaningful action to fight climate change and improve community resilience.

Source: City of Evanston

Timeline

- Spring '18 Fall '18 (Planning Stage)
- Winter '18- Summer '19 (First Iteration)
- Fall '19-Spring '20 (Second Iteration)
 - Research & Content Creation
 - Focus Group Sessions- Community Partners & City Staff
 - Community Meetings- D65 Teachers & EvanSTEM
 - Printing Quotes & Logistics
 - o Curriculum Review w/ Teachers
 - Classroom Lessons & Climate Projects
 - Climate Action Fair







Recording Session with City of Evanston Mayor Stephen Hagerty

Implementation- The Activity



Experience Climate Change Toolkit

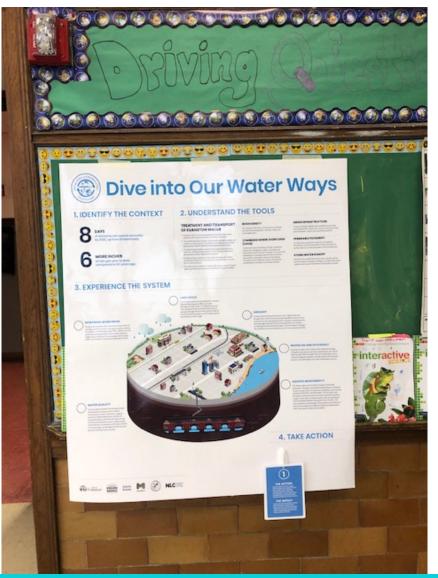
Welcome to the City's Experience Climate Change Activity Toolkit. Since the City recently adopted the Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP), the Office of Sustainability is excited to engage with you and your students through this experiential learning activity. We hope the students will start thinking about what climate impacts look and feel like locally, what decisions the City needs to make, and how the students can contribute to mitigate these local impacts. Below are the instructions to set up the activity.

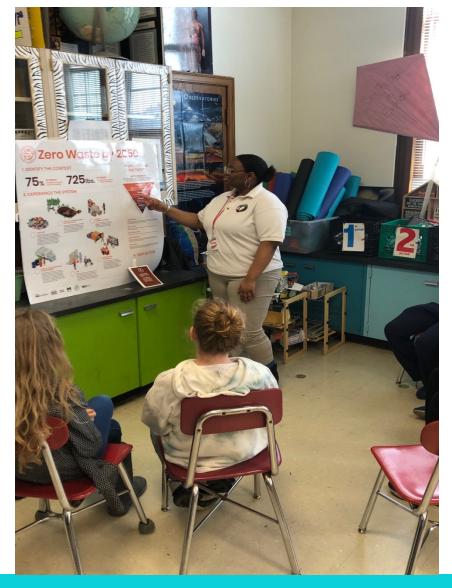
Materials:

- 1. 4 Scenario Posters (Extreme Heat, Water, Waste and Air Quality)
- 2. Action/Impact Cards
- 3. Extra: Command hooks
- 4. Tape

Set Up:

Classroom Time!







The Impact

Climate: C16, C18 Leadership: L11, L39 Sustainable Communities: SC35, SC39, SC43 Water: W52 Waste & Recycling: WR22,



COLLABORATING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Key Takeaways

- **Collaborate** with community stakeholders (this is key!)
- **Strike the balance** between simplicity & technicality of information
- **Prepare** for conversations to segue (with kids or adults!)
- **Create** visuals
- *Challenges:
- Finding institutional partners
- Information exchange/ resident to resident conversation

The Future

- Ramp up online curriculum
- Continue relationship building with community & institutional partners
- Expand to other age groups
- Case study for other cities



Special Thanks & Recognition

- Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse
- Chris Essex
- EvanSTEM
- District 65
- National League of Cities
- o MetaMedia
- Lake Dance
- Delta Lab at Northwestern University



Resources

- You can find the Experience Climate Change posters and action cards on the City of Evanston's Website and on EL3, an online learning platform.
- <u>https://www.cityofevanston.org/about-evanston/sustainability/climate-</u> change
 - <u>https://el-3.org/organization-details?id=1101</u>

Press Release on EvanSTEM & City of Evanston Collaboration

https://www.cityofevanston.org/Home/Components/News/News/4860/17

Lake Dance

http://www.lakedance.org/

MetaMedia

https://www.mcgawymca.org/metamedia/

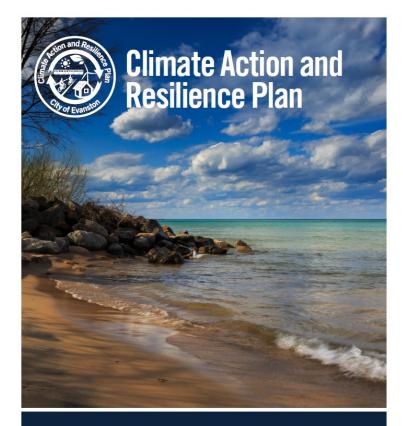
Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse

https://www.evanstonrebuildingwarehouse.org/

National League of Cities

https://www.nlc.org/

Contact Information



Carbon Neutral by 2050

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citvofevanston.org/climate

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