

Materials: • Screen for viewing

• personal devices for

measuring Personal Footprint

**Estimated Time:** apprx. 1.5 hours

(including discussion

time)

Grade Level: 7 to 12

## Introduction



The goal of Climate Ready Classrooms is to help students build climate literacy and resiliency, understand carbon emissions at a personal, community and global scale, learn coping strategies to deal with heavy climate emotions, and leave with practical tools for taking meaningful climate action today!

This lesson outline contains a series of five videos, each one tackling a different important aspect of the climate crisis:

- **1. Climate 101**
- 2. Climate Feelings
- 3. Solutions
- **4. Personal Footprints**
- **5. Taking Action**

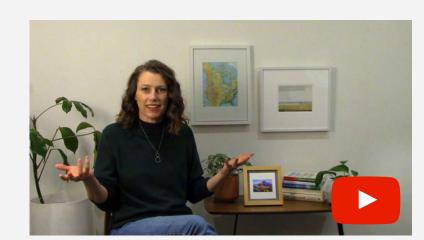
Each video is approximately 10 minutes in length, with three questions at the end to provoke thoughtful class or small group discussion. Video four also involves an interactive element, in which students will get to measure their personal carbon footprints. We recommend watching the videos in order, however you are welcome to mix and match, or even blend with other lesson plans. Do what works best for your class!

## Video 0: Welcome

This short welcome video will introduce your class to the content and let them know what to expect in the series



## Watch video as a class:



## Video 1: Climate 101 - What is climate change?

Let's review the basic facts about climate change. What causes climate change and how is it impacting us? In this video Katie will cover science basics like greenhouse gasses and where they come from, how the influx of GHG's in the atmosphere impacts communities, and the injustice of climate change (vulnerable communities feel the impacts first and worst!)



#### Watch video as a class:





#### **Discuss:**

- 1. What stood out for you? Was there anything covered today that was new or different?
- 2. What about weirder and wilder weather in your community? Have you noticed any changes since you were younger?
- 3. Can you think of any other examples of environmental injustice? What are some of the ways that vulnerable people or communities are a greater risk of climate impacts?

## Video 2: Climate Feelings - How do I feel about climate change?

Talking and thinking about climate change can be scary sometimes, and having strong feelings about the situation is normal and valid! In this video we will identify some common climate feelings, discover why feelings are good things, and discuss some coping strategies that may help.



## Watch video as a class:





### **Discuss:**

- 1. Where have you noticed climate feelings shaping people's reactions to climate change?
- 2.Do you have a coping strategy that works well for you when you start to feel overwhelmed by an emotion? How do you take care of yourself?
- 3.Is there a place in nature that restores you or connects you to the earth that you can visit more regularly?

## Video 3: Solutions - What are the solutions to climate change?

Guess what? We already know the solutions to climate change. We just need to implement them! Here's what we have to do: first, stop releasing carbon emissions; second, work with nature to draw carbon back down; and third, prioritize equity and justice as we go. We will discover that climate change actually provides us with the opportunity to build a better world!



### Watch video as a class:





#### **Discuss:**

- 1. We talked about a lot of climate solutions which ones stood out for you?
- 2. Think of an issue in your community. Is there a way to address it and climate together?
- 3. What are the ways we can make sure our climate safe future advances equity and brings everyone along?

## Video 4: Carbon Footprints - What's my impact on climate change?

In this video, we will follow along with Jacqueline as we measure our carbon footprints using Project Neutral's carbon footprint calculator. This is a chance to understand in a deeper way how carbon is tangled up in our society and how we live. Discover how our carbon footprints reveal to us where we currently have the power to make change, and where we don't have power and need to claim it back!



### Watch video as a class:





#### **Discuss:**

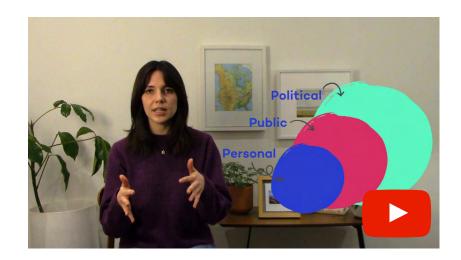
- 1. What was your highest emission category? Did it surprise you?
- 2. What change would have the biggest impact that you can make in the next week? What about in the next year?
- 3. What are the areas in your life where climate choices are being made for you?

## Video 5: Taking Action - What can I do about climate change?

Did you know that taking action is actually a great coping strategy to combat our heavy climate feelings? Action is the antidote to despair! In our final video, we will break down climate action into three categories: personal, public and political. We will discover how we can start taking real-life climate action today!



#### Watch video as a class:





#### **Discuss:**

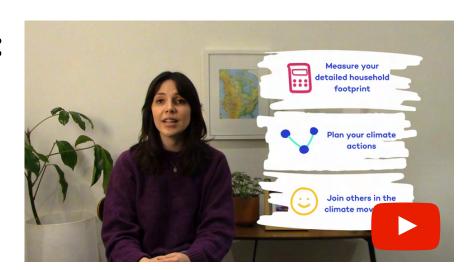
- 1. What is something you care about and enjoy doing? Is there a way you can turn it into a climate solution?
- 2.Pick an emissions category and think about it in terms of the 3 P's (personal, public and political space) and think of an action for each.
- 3.Is there someone taking climate action that inspires you? What excites you about what they're doing?

## Video 6: Thanks for Watching!

A short outro video to say thanks for watching!! You're all done, woohoo!!



## Watch video as a class:





# About Project Neutral

Project Neutral is an environmental charity under the umbrella of the MakeWay Charitable Society. Since 2010, we've used our interactive tools and programming to kickstart Canadians on their climate journey. We offer approachable, highly engaging experiences built on a foundation of rigorous climate science.

# www.projectneutral.org



