

Climate Justice Spectrum Lines

Explore ideas around climate justice with this agree / disagree line activity.

Aims

- Share understanding and knowledge around climate justice.
- Promote discussion around the climate emergency.

What you need

Space to move around, AGREE and DISAGREE signs and statements (**see next page**).

What to do

Organise an agree/disagree line in your classroom and invite learners to respond to this statement:

'History is a neutral subject.'

This activity could be used as a baseline before starting a topic on climate justice and then repeated at the end to compare if pupils' thinking has changed.

Set up an imaginary agree / disagree line across the classroom. Write AGREE and DISAGREE on pieces of paper and stick them on opposite sides of the space. Read each statement, ask pupils to stand along the spectrum line based on how much they agree or disagree with the statement, with one end being 'completely agree', one end 'completely disagree', and all of the spectrums of answer in between. Remind them that these statements are not black and white, so there is not necessarily a right answer. The purpose of these statements is to draw out nuance.

If space is limited, pupils can work in small groups to agree a response and one representative can stand on the line.

For each statement, get pupils to explain why they have chosen to stand where they are. Encourage discussion and debate, and let pupils know they can move their position as discussion progresses.

Plenary

Introduce the concept 'climate justice', which recognises that climate change, human rights and the rights of nature are linked. It also recognises that those who have contributed the least to climate change are those who are most affected. The Young Friends of the Earth [Introduction to Climate Justice](#) booklet provides lots of information about this concept.

For further information and teaching ideas check out this [Exploring Climate Justice](#) resource from Wosdec and search 'climate justice' on the [Signposts website](#).

This activity was adapted from the Young Friends of the Earth [Introduction to Climate Justice](#) booklet.

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Climate Justice statements:

Everyone is equally responsible for causing climate change.

Within the UK, everyone will be equally affected by climate change.

Within the UK, everyone will be equally affected by climate change.

Spending time talking about social issues like feminism or racism are a distraction from the more urgent problem of climate change.

Making lifestyle changes to reduce your own carbon footprint is an effective way of tackling climate change.

If fossil fuel companies switched entirely to renewables tomorrow, our problems would largely be solved.