

Learning for Climate Action Wall Planner

The Hive, formally Suntrap Forest Centre, is an award-winning environmental education centre based in Epping Forest. Building on our legacy of over 50 years of nature-based learning, we inspire people to tackle climate change through a deeper understanding and connection with the natural world.

Over the years we have enjoyed closely collaborating with schools, witnessing the enthusiasm of students as they engage with our environmental activities, and seeing the impact on their knowledge and commitment to a sustainable future.

Together we are nurturing a generation passionate about climate change and seeing the power of education to drive positive change for our planet. To all the schools we've worked with so far, we thank you and look forward to welcoming you (and those that have yet to visit) to The Hive, where we can continue to inspire tomorrow's climate leaders, today.

Throughout this calendar The Hive activities are written in green. Find out more about them on www.thehiveintheforest.co.uk



Big Climate Conversation
Waltham Forest Council is putting local young people at the heart of the borough's response to the climate and ecological emergency, enabling them to be heard and informed about Waltham Forest's Climate Action Plan.

November 2023

Nature and resilience

Living in harmony with our environment



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 Big Climate Conversation (all month) for all Waltham Forest Schools & Colleges	2 Dia De Los Muertos (day of the dead)	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Inter-Faith Week
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 World Children's Day	21	22	23	24 Buy Nothing Day!	25	26 World Sustainable Transport Day
27	28	29	30 COP 28 Eco-Leads Network Meeting (in-person) End of Big Climate Conversation celebration			



CELEBRATE

Take part in the Big Climate Conversation - display the student's ideas for nature friendly school grounds.

December 2023

DEFINITION

Climate anxiety: Distress related to worries about the effects of climate change

Book recommendation: 'No One is Too Small to Make a Difference' by Greta Thunberg

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
4	5 World Soil Day	6	7	8	9	10 Human Rights Day
11 International Mountain Day	12 Climate Confidence for Teachers CPD COP 28 ends	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Christmas Holidays Start	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31

ACT

Could you commit to having one Maths and one English lesson outdoors every half term?

"Very clear and easy to understand, all staff were helpful, and their work ethic ensured the experience for both children and teachers was amazing."

KS3 teacher, Waltham Forest

"Great organised activities, instructors were fantastic and had a great relationship with the pupils. Thank you!"

KS2 teacher, Waltham Forest

DID YOU KNOW?
There is increasing evidence that outdoor environmental education improves educational attainment as well as social and emotional wellbeing.

"Climate change isn't something that is happening somewhere else. It's happening here... As a Council, we look forward to working with all our schools and young people to make a meaningful difference to the climate emergency we jointly face."

Lauren Ovenden, Director of Education and Luke Ravenscroft, Director of Climate Emergency

September 2023

Curriculum for sustainability

Putting sustainability at the heart of learning

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
4 Autumn Term Starts	5 International Day of Charity	6	7	8 International Literacy Day	9 International Day to Protect Education from Attack	10
11	12	13	14	15 International Day of Democracy	16 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer	17
18	19	20	21 International Day of Peace	22 World Car Free Day	23	24 World Rivers Day
25	26	27	28	29	30	World Car Free Day celebration in Leytonstone

DISCUSS

- What if we learnt as much about the environment as we do about maths?
- What will students in 100 years time learn about our response to climate change now?

CELEBRATE

Celebrate car-free weekend in Waltham Forest by hosting a street party, free from traffic! Scan for more information.



Leading the way:
UK climate activist Mikeela Loach is an inspiration in the fight for climate justice. Check out her book 'It's Not That Radical'!

CELEBRATE

Create a regular 'Sustainability Feature' in the school newsletter.

ACT

Leaders: Does your school / college have an Eco-Lead or Sustainability Curriculum Lead?
Teachers: Check out the Teach the Future 'Curriculum for a Changing Climate'

October 2023

In climate conversations, the need for equity, justice and centering the voices of Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) is crucial. Research the activists at the forefront of the climate justice movement and display your findings with your school.

Black History Month

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2 World Habitat Day	3	4 World Animal Day	5 World Teachers Day	6	7	8 UK Fungus Day
9	10 World Mental Health Day	11 Waltham Forest Eco-Leads Network 4-5pm (online) International Day of the Girl Child	12	13	14	15
16 World Food Day	17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	18 Anti-Slavery Day	19	20 World Reptile Day	21	22
23 Half Term	24	25	26	27	28	29 Clocks Go Back
30	31					



Sunday
1 World Vegetarian Day
Black History Month

January 2024

Buildings, energy and transport

Reducing our carbon footprint

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Veganuary New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6 Big Schools' Bird Watch, until 20th February	7
8 Spring Term Starts	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 The Hive's Climate Leaders course for Year 8-10's	25	26 International Day of Clean Energy	27	28
29 Big Garden Bird Watch	30 Eco-Leads Network Meeting 4-5pm (online) Taking part in Eco-Schools & Let's Go Zero	31				

DISCUSS

What would happen if we had one day a week without devices? (Device free Tuesday!)

CELEBRATE

Promote the nicest routes for walking and cycling to your students.

ACT

Random Acts of Kindness
What can you do to be kind to nature today?

ACT

Check the temperature!
Classrooms should be at least 18°C, corridors and sports areas 15°C, and areas occupied by young pupils or those with special needs 21°C. Turning down heating by 1°C can reduce energy usage by up to 10%.
Sign up to Let's Go Zero

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2 World Wetlands Day	3	4 Children's Mental Health Awareness Month
5	6	7 Climate Confidence for Teachers CPD	8
9	10	11	12 Half Term
13	14	15	16
17 Random Acts of Kindness Global Tourism Resilience Day	18 International Day of Women & Girls in Science	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Fairtrade Fortnight
29			



CELEBRATE

Are you taking part in TfL Stars? Make sure everyone knows about the achievements.

DISCUSS

What if we had a limited amount of water we could use each day?

Veganuary
Raising livestock for food creates 14.5% of the globe's annual greenhouse gas emissions. Consuming a plant-based diet could result in reducing carbon emissions by up to 2.5 times compared to a diet based on meat consumption!

Food and water

Respecting our natural resources



March 2024

Food and water
Respecting our natural resources

DISCUSS

What if we had a limited amount of water we could use each day?

ACT

Capture rainwater for use on the school garden.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3 World Wildlife Day
4	5	6	7 Climate Confidence for Teachers CPD	8 International Womens Day	9	10
11 British Science Week	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Eco-Leads Network meeting: (In-person) Food growing and outdoor learning with The Hive	19	20	21 International Day of Forests	22 World Water Day	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Good Friday Easter Holidays Start	30 International Day of Zero Waste	31

HIVE TESTIMONIAL

"The children were thoroughly engaged and excited throughout the day. Fantastic activities that supported our learning in school."

KS2 teacher, Waltham Forest

April 2024

Climate justice
Creating an equitable future

DISCUSS

Who is responsible for tackling climate change?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Easter Monday Easter Holidays	2	3	4	5	6	7 World Health Day
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Summer Term Starts	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 International Earth Day Fashion Revolution Week	23	24 Climate Confidence for Teachers CPD	25	26	27	28
29	30					



22 April

How does fast fashion link with climate justice? What can we do as consumers to make environmentally conscious choices?

HIVE TESTIMONIAL

"Activities were brilliant, facilities excellent, staff positive, encouraging and hands on. Lost count of pupils saying 'best trip ever.'"

KS2 teacher, Waltham Forest, Residential

May 2024

ACT

Teach the four Equality and Justice Lesson plans created by Thought Box. There are options for Years 1 – 13

CELEBRATE

Hold an assembly dedicated to people around the world who are tackling climate change and fighting for the rights of local people.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6 Early May bank holiday	7	8	9	10	11 World Fair Trade Day	12
13	14	15 Eco-Leads Network meeting: 2-5pm (online) Linking Rights and Climate Change	16	17	18	19
20 World Bee Day	21	22 International Day of Biological Diversity	23	24	25	26
27 Spring Bank Holiday Half Term	28	29	30 Bike week	31		

22nd - International Day of Biological Diversity

Celebrate the biodiversity in your local area/school grounds. Host a bio blitz to see what you can find, learn more about the species in your area and how to protect them. What could you do as a school to increase biodiversity?

HIVE TESTIMONIAL

"Absolutely great... all children were given attention and the opportunity to explore. Care was given to SEN children."

EYFS teacher, Barnet

June 2024

Circular economy
Reducing what we use and throw away

DISCUSS

What if we ran out of space in landfill? What in your life could you have less of?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
3 World Bicycle Day	4	5 World Environment Day	6	7	8 World Oceans Day	9
10	11	12	13 Eco-Leads Network Summer Social: In person	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 World Refugee Day	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



July 2024

Plastic Free July

Conduct a garbage bin audit to discover all the 'waste' that could be avoided, recycled or composted. Find out more:

CELEBRATE

It is the end of the school year – celebrate with single-use plastic free events and an eco-themed summer fair.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Plastic Free July	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Climate Confidence for Teachers CPD	12	13	14
15 World Youth Skills Day	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Last Day Of Summer Term	25	26	27	28 World Nature Conservation Day
29	30	31				



ACT

Set up a composting system at the school. It could be managed by the science team.

August 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
5	6 National Tree Day	7	8	9	10	11
12 International Youth Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Summer Bank Holiday International Bat Night	27	28	29	30	31	



Learning for Climate Action Wall Planner

Turning The Charter into Action

The Waltham Forest Schools & Colleges Climate Charter draws together sustainability learning, decarbonising and a culture of caring for the planet to provide a whole school framework.

This wall planner is based on The Charter's eight themes, combining some to put one theme in the spotlight each half term:

- Curriculum for Sustainability
- Nature & Resilience
- Buildings, Energy & Transport
- Food & Water
- Climate Justice
- Circular Economy & Waste

All schools and colleges in Waltham Forest can sign up to show their commitment to climate action and make use of The Charter wherever they are on their sustainability journey.



HIVE TESTIMONIAL

"Overall, I have to say I was so impressed... They managed the children well and provided fabulous tasks and opportunities for our children. They have gained a valuable experience and I have also really enjoyed myself."

KS1 teacher, Waltham Forest

5th - World Environment Day

It's time to celebrate our earth! Reflect on some of the environmental challenges we face today and discuss what we can do to engage in protecting the environment.



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