

Be a Zero Hero: Workshop plan for home learning

Aim: To understand how climate change affects people around the world.

Themes: climate change, net zero, stewardship, sustainability, global neighbours, poverty, education, health

Time: 45-60 mins

Preparation:

- Download the *Zero Hero workshop PowerPoint*
- Optional:
 - Print and cut out *workshop card sort PowerPoint slides*
 - Print out a large zero template

Further ideas:

- Gather recyclable materials to create zero

Introduction (5 mins)

Have you heard about how climate change is destroying our planet?

Have you ever seen fields flooded, or the ground so dry it is cracking up?

Can anyone think of a country they have seen on the news that has had a recent cyclone, drought or flood?

Climate change affects us all! It affects our health. It floods our sports fields. It's warming the earth and changing the beautiful world God created.

But what is climate change?

Does anyone know what a fossil fuel is?

Most of this country's electricity is made by burning fossil fuels, like coal and gas. This puts harmful gases into the atmosphere and makes the world get hotter.

This changes our climate and these polluting gases warm our earth and change the beautiful world God has created.

These changes in our world are much worse for people living in poverty overseas. More extreme weather makes it harder to make a living, and can lead to more and more disasters like droughts, floods and cyclones.

Starter activity (20 mins)

Sort the words/pictures/photos into three piles. There is a blank square in the set in case you think of another example for any of the piles.

- 1 – things that cause climate change
- 2 – effects of climate change
- 3 – things we can do to stop climate change

What is net zero? (10 mins)

We need to make an urgent change to help our planet. We share this world with everyone, and it's all of our responsibility to take care of it. Pope Francis calls it 'our common home'.

We can change this in our area. Last year, our UK government committed to a 'net zero' target. We must now ask them to keep to that target. But what is net zero?

Show the Net Zero explainer film - <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Zero-Hero>

The UK reaching net zero will mean that we no longer contribute to climate change.

So, if we take our first pile from the card sort activity (things that cause climate change), we need to make our third pile (what we can do to tackle it) balance it out to achieve net zero.

Quick quiz activity (5 mins)

To check what we've done so far, we're going to do a quick quiz (see *powerpoint*).

1. Which of these is not a fossil fuel? a) Coal **b) The sun** c) Oil d) Gas
2. Climate change can cause the weather to be: a) Hotter b) Colder c) Drier **d) All of the above** (explain it can even make the weather wetter)
3. Who can make change happen? a) Politicians b) Teachers c) Adults **d) Everyone**

Case study – Zero Heroes in Peru (10 mins)

Together we can all be Zero Heroes for our common home. Zero Heroes are fighting against climate change all around the world.

Meet the members of the eco-brigade (another name for an eco-club or green team) from Lima in Peru. They live in an area called the Lomas de Carabayllo. They were formed in school and meet once a week. They have been learning about different topics like eco-systems, climate change. They have started work on a project in their area, planting small plants to help protect the land. They have also started clearing an area in the school where they will create and plant a garden.

This is Rebeca. She is 9 years old. She says '*I am learning about rubbish, to collect it, how to make/use rubbish bins for cardboard and glass so they don't pollute the environment. To look after the environment, I gather up rubbish and I use a rubbish bin. I also show others in the town that they can also collect their rubbish.*'

This is Milagros. She is also 9 years old. She says '*Planting plants here in the Lomas is very important because the plants give us oxygen. And looking after the plants is very important.*'

[Link back to cards from first activity, protecting and planting trees, reducing plastic usage.]

Zero activity (10 mins)

We can be Zero Heroes too. We are going to show how much we care for our common home by creating a zero display.

Make your own display in the shape of a zero.

- Use the zero template and write or draw why you want to be a Zero Hero
- Stand in a circle and do a superhero pose, using our superhero cut-out masks

Other ideas

- You could use recycled materials to create a zero
- You could use plants to make a zero collage
- You could make a display of all your decorated zero templates

