



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



**Environmental  
Squad**



# **TOOL GUIDE**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH EDUCATION SQUAD (EYES)**

2022-1-DK01-KA210-YOU-000082179

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Environmental Youth Education Squad (EYES) (2022-1-DK01-KA210-YOU-000082179)

## — *Intro*

Welcome to the Environmental Youth Education Squad (EYES) Tool Guide, a resource designed to raise awareness among young people on issues such as pollution of the rivers and seas.



This guide offers a range of activities and initiatives that promote environmental conservation in engaging and interactive ways

By utilizing the tools and activities in this guide, young people can actively contribute to a cleaner and more sustainable future. Let's join together and make a difference by taking action, raising awareness, and inspiring change in our communities.





# Good Practices

In the pursuit of mitigating water pollution and promoting sustainable practices, various innovative initiatives have emerged throughout Europe, each contributing to the larger goal of achieving Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life Below Water. From dynamic relay events to interactive mobile applications, these endeavors aim to engage diverse communities in the fight against water pollution. This compilation showcases nine impactful practices and success stories that have successfully increased awareness and mobilized communities to take action.

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Environmental Youth Education Squad (EYES) (2022-1-DK01-KA210-YOU-000082179)



# Race for Oceans

The Race for Oceans Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Denmark. Their purpose is to shine a light on Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life Below Water, including the growing plastic pollution. In a unique way, they create a greater synergy between sports, beach clean-ups, and knowledge. The organization organizes a yearly relay, the Race for Oceans Relay, with the vision to become one of the most sustainable events in the world, built on strong partnerships with companies working with the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2019 the first Race for Oceans relay became a reality – covering 456 km along the Danish coast during a 10-day sports event. The disciplines are primarily running/walking, but SUP and kayaking are also possible. Everyone, who enters this event, is on the same team and will jointly bring the baton from A to B. All Race for Oceans activities is free of charge and for everyone with a passion for oceans.

Even more, the organization invites people to Walk & Talks & Beach Clean-Ups. So far families, friends, companies, schools, and scouts have joined them for an inspiring experience on the beach adapted to each different group's individual needs.

Find out more: <https://raceforoceans.org/home-2>





## Pant Z Day (Letz Sushi)

LETZ SUSHI, a prominent Danish sushi restaurant chain, has undergone a comprehensive transformation in its operations, prioritizing sustainability across various facets of its business. In a dedicated effort to minimize its environmental footprint, LETZ SUSHI has revamped its purchasing and production practices, opting for sustainable alternatives in everything from sourcing fish and rice to managing electricity consumption and packaging materials.

One standout initiative is the introduction of their annual 'Pant Z Day,' a unique endeavor that ingeniously merges environmental responsibility with culinary enjoyment. On this designated day, the 'Pant Z' deposit mark imparts tangible value to collected plastic, turning what would otherwise be waste into a valuable resource. The simplicity of the concept is both inspiring and effective—participants are encouraged to gather plastic from nature and bring it to their local LETZ SUSHI restaurant on 'Pant Z Day.' In a creative twist, this collected plastic translates into a discount on the delectable sushi offerings.

Find out more: <https://letsushi.dk/pant-z-dag-2022/>



# GreenKayak

GreenKayak is an environmental NGO that engages people in the fight against ocean pollution. Everyone is invited to paddle our kayaks for free under two simple conditions - spend your time in a GreenKayak collecting trash and share the experience on social media #GreenKayak.

GreenKayak is building a global network of GreenKayaks to enable everyone to take local action for cleaner oceans, raise awareness, and bring environmental responsibility into people's everyday lives.

The NGO was founded in 2017, collecting trash floating around the waters of Copenhagen. This local concept has rapidly grown and is now available in five European countries and Japan. By the end of 2022, the UNESCO Green Citizen awarded organization welcomed more than 50.000 paddlers aboard their kayaks. This collective effort resulted in collecting more than 80 tons of trash from the water. It is to highlight, that the trash found mostly is light plastic items and wrapping.

The success of the concept lies within the involvement and engagement of citizens in the fight against ocean pollution at eye level. The activity on the water is described as a win-win situation for the paddlers and the environment. GreenKayak found an effective way of not only raising awareness of the issue of environmental pollution but to make people act and feel empowered.

Waste in nature is an issue that concerns all of us and the NGO figured out a way to include people in the shared responsibility to protect our oceans.

Find out more: <https://www.greenkayak.org/>





# Know Water app

The Know Water App is designed to enable edutainment for students at primary and high school levels. It is designed to generate simple, creative, and engaging ways of connecting and communicating with school children on water and sanitation issues. The aim is to foster water education while being entertained.

Each question comes with multiple choice answers; Yes or No; or True or False options. The player is able to try different answers until they get it right. The App is also designed to ensure the player gives the correct answer before they are allowed to go to the next question. It uses different sounds to tell the player whether the answer given is correct or wrong.

The questions cover a wide range of water and sanitation issues to help students develop their understanding of conscious water consumption, thus motivating themselves and others to change patterns of unsustainable water consumption

- learn to visualize the volume of water used in daily actions and habits and acquire proper hand-washing and sanitation skills.
- get acquainted with the principle of water abundance and the difference with water scarcity, both physical and economic, and become aware of its existence as a finite resource.

<https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/know-water-app>



# Bubble barrier extracting plastic

Plastic pollution is a burning issue both on land and water. Plastic in water is problematic in many ways. It can harm wildlife when plastic is tangled in a limb, neck or other body parts. When ingested, it cannot be digested and ends up harming the animal. Plastics can also leach toxic compounds into the water.

Claar-els van Delft, the co-founder of the nonprofit Coast Busters, noticed that plastic waste coming from a local river, ends up on the beach of the seaside town of Katwijk, Netherlands. To stop the plastic from the rivers from reaching the ocean, he developed an innovative solution: The Great Bubble Barrier.

The Great Bubble Barrier uses bubbles to trap and remove plastics from waterways. On their website, they say: "We create a bubble curtain by pumping air through a perforated tube on the bottom of the waterway. The bubble curtain creates an upward current that directs plastic to the surface. By placing the Bubble Barrier diagonally across the river, the natural flow of the water will push the plastic waste to the side and into the catchment system.

The catchment system is designed to work in harmony with the bubble curtain to collect and retain plastics. Following collection, it will be removed for processing and reuse."

<https://thegreatbubblebarrier.com/>





# River Cleanup habit

The River Cleanup unites thousands of volunteers across the globe working on one goal: remove the trash from rivers before they reach the sea.

The River Cleanup started in 2017 when Thomas de Groot decided to challenge himself to pick up trash for 10 minutes. This challenge inspired the first Rhine River Cleanup. The initial plan was to have 10 cleanups in 3 countries along the Rhine. In reality, over 10 000 volunteers joined the cleanup day in 60 cities and 5 countries, from source to end. After the success at the Rhine, River Cleanup was officially founded and expanded to 10 rivers in Europe and Asia. In the first four years, they collected 1 million kg of river waste.

If you feel inspired to join their mission take a look at their website. Many cleanups are organized around the world. Find one close to you and become part of the cleanup! If you are unable to find a cleanup in your area you can always organise your own. Register it on their website so other people can see it. You can also upload photos and share your experience with the River Cleanup community.

<https://www.river-cleanup.org/en>



## "LESS IS MORE - coffee without plastic"

In a proactive endeavor to diminish the pervasive presence of single-use plastic in the coffee culture of Iași, the "Less is More - coffee without plastic" project emerges as a transformative initiative. The project's focal point revolves around a pivotal shift in consumer behavior – a deliberate departure from the ubiquitous single-use coffee cups in to-go cafes towards embracing the sustainable alternative of using personal refill containers, be it one's own coffee cup or thermos.

The primary aim of the project is twofold: first and foremost, it seeks to instigate a substantial change in the purchasing habits of consumers, fostering an enduring commitment to eco-friendly practices. Secondly, it aspires to curtail the prevalent reliance on single-use plastic, particularly in the context of the ever-popular to-go coffee culture.

Beyond the immediate scope of reducing plastic consumption, the project sets its sights on a loftier objective – the cultivation and preservation of these newfound behaviors even beyond the lifespan of the project itself. The notion of sustainability extends to ensuring that the positive shift in consumer behavior becomes an integral part of the community's collective consciousness.





## #ReClothing- give clothes a second chance

As part of the #ReClothing project, JCI Cluj volunteers give clothes a second chance: basically, items that some people are bored with or maybe they have never worn are looking for a new owner. We are talking about over 1,000 pieces of clothing, all in excellent condition. In addition, at the Iulius Mall fair, Cluj residents can find t-shirts with sustainable messages, as well as clothes remade using pieces of salvaged material (upcycling techniques).

Under these conditions, you have several options to extend the life of your favorite clothes:

- Simply donate clothes to families with limited financial means.
- Take your unwanted clothing to the recycling bins located around town or to the stores of major clothing brands that encourage clothing recycling by offering shopping vouchers or a discount to those who bring old clothes to their stores.
- Look for social media groups on the Internet, such as the numaiport Facebook group, and sell the clothes you no longer fit or wear
- You can use the money obtained for charitable purposes or buy new clothes



# Genus - Saving the planet can be fun!

Genus is a unique platform that engages young individuals in saving the planet by blending online fun with real-world impact. It's not a conventional game, but it offers a gamified experience with rewards, levels, points, collaboration, and competition. Participants explore an immersive online world with avatars, encountering enjoyable activities and weekly surprises.

Beyond the online realm, Genus missions direct participants to contribute actively to environmental conservation. The platform's main mission is to develop a generation that instinctively thinks and decisively acts for the planet, with every action having measurable, positive impacts. Genus initiates this journey through an educational framework that promotes critical thinking about sustainability, fostering real-world skills and personal responsibility.

Genus is not just a game; it's an educational tool designed to deepen young people's understanding of sustainability. The platform also offers a Genus for Schools product, enabling teachers to seamlessly integrate sustainability into the classroom. Overall, Genus believes in making sustainability enjoyable and rewarding, proving that saving the planet can indeed be fun.

<https://www.genus.earth/>





# 30 Tools

Introducing a comprehensive toolkit for fostering awareness among young individuals on the crucial themes of plastic upcycling and water cleanups. These meticulously designed tools are rooted in non-formal methodologies, encompassing a diverse array of activities tailored to engage participants effectively. The toolkit includes:

- Ice Breaking and Warming Up Activities
- Brainstorming Activities
- Development Activities
- Reflection Activities
- Further Reading and Resources

These versatile tools are adaptable for integration into workshops and comprehensive programs, addressing the specific requirements of youth organizations. Whether facilitating a single session or a series of workshops, this toolkit serves as a dynamic resource to instill awareness and action in the younger generation concerning environmental sustainability.

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Environmental Youth Education Squad (EYES) (2022-1-DK01-KA210-YOU-000082179)



Ice breaking and warming up activity

# Trash quiz

**Number of participants: As many as possible**

**Duration: 20 min**

What type of trash exists? How many types of plastics? Where to recycle properly? All these questions are fundamental when people want to help and do the right thing cleaning their houses or throwing away their take-away products. A decision that we do not always know how to manage in front of so many choices and differences. This quiz could be developed with a game master asking the questions to the different teams of volunteers. The fastest team to find the correct answer will be the winner of the game. The use of images, videos, or words can be used to ask questions. Starting from simple questions to the hardest ones.

The quiz helps raise awareness of the correct behavior to transmit knowledge effectively. Furthermore, the quiz will help to ensure that people are aware of the potential consequences of their actions and how to avoid them. Ultimately, the quiz will help to create more informed and responsible pupils.





Ice breaking and warming up activity


# Never have I ever

**Number of participants: 10 - 20**

**Duration: 10 min**

The “Never have I ever...” game is known to be played with beverages, but will use the mystery of potential questions and answers to create an exciting game and relate it to plastic pollution: “Never have I ever thrown a cigarette butt in nature.” “Never have I ever taken trash in the street to put it in the bin.”

Players take turns asking other players about things they have not done. Other players who have done this thing respond. This game can help by showing a twist of realization that we all have misbehaved and all make the same mistakes. Trash comes from us, and we must do something about it collectively. We are all the solution, and an easy ice-breaking activity allows the volunteers to all feel on the same page. This game shows that even though we are different, plastic pollution is all in our lives. With this mystery-filled game, we will give players an experience to reflect on.



CO<sub>2</sub>

Ice breaking and warming up activity

# The environment-centred Post-It Note Game

**Number of participants: Groups of 4-6**

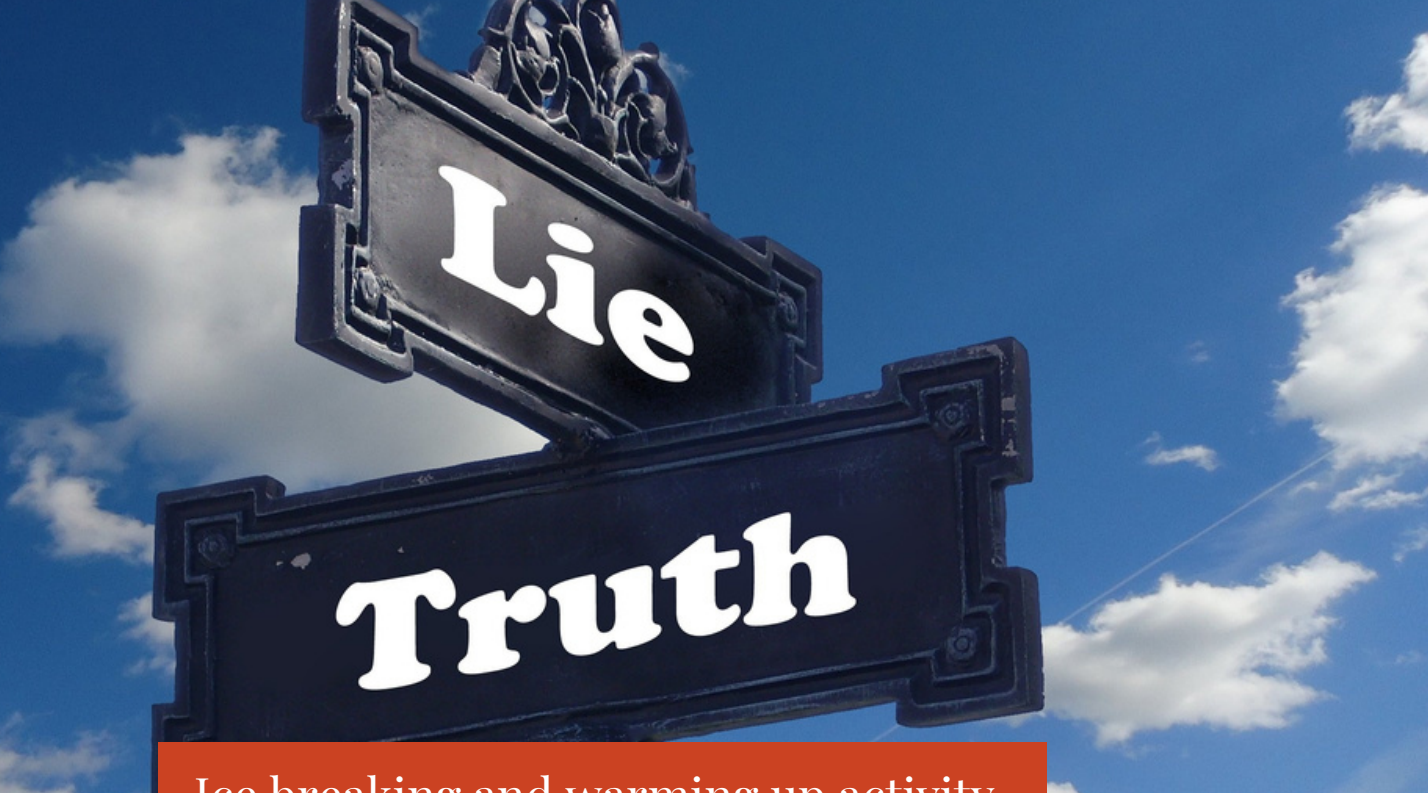
**Duration: 10-15 min**

The environment-centred Post-It Note Game is fun and simple. The objective is to guess the word or phrase written on a Post-It note attached to your forehead, based on the clues provided by your teammates.

The rules for the Post-It Note Game: Write down a word or phrase on a Post-It note. The words can be anything from animals, types of pollution, environmental heroes, or even a random sustainability-related word. Stick the Post-It note onto the forehead of another player without them seeing what is written on the note. The player with the Post-It note on their forehead can ask yes or no questions to the other players, trying to guess the word or phrase on their note. The other players can only respond with "yes" or "no." If the player correctly guesses the word or phrase, the player gets another try. If it's a wrong answer, the game moves on to the next player. The game continues until the first player guesses the word on their forehead.

The Post It Note Game is a fun way to spend time with pupils or colleagues. It encourages teamwork, communication, and creativity while also providing a good laugh.





Ice breaking and warming up activity

## A truth and a lie

**Number of participants: 10 - 20**

**Duration: 15 min**

This game is called "Plastic Truth or Lie". Each participant is asked to come up with one truth and one lie about their behavior around plastics. The truths and lies can be related to any aspect of plastic use, such as recycling, single-use plastic consumption, or plastic waste reduction.

Once everyone has come up with their truth and lie, they take turns sharing their statements with the group. The rest of the group then tries to guess which statement is true or false.

After each person has shared their statements, the group can discuss the statements and share their thoughts on plastic use and ways to reduce plastic waste. This can be a great opportunity for participants to learn from each other and discover new strategies for reducing their own plastic consumption.

This game is a fun and engaging way to encourage participants to reflect on their plastic use and raise awareness about the impact of plastic on the environment. It can also be a great conversation starter for groups interested in promoting sustainable practices and reducing plastic waste.



Ice breaking and warming up activity

# Sustainable bingo

**Number of participants: As many as possible**

**Duration: 2 hours**

A sustainable bingo game is a fun and educational way to promote sustainable practices and raise awareness about environmental issues. The game follows the basic rules of bingo, but the numbers are replaced with sustainable actions or environmental topics, such as "turn off the lights when leaving a room" or "reduce plastic waste".

To create a sustainable bingo game, you can start by researching sustainable practices and environmental topics that you want to include in the game. You can also design a bingo card using a free online template or create one from scratch using a grid layout. Each square on the bingo card should contain a different sustainable action or environmental topic.

To play the game, distribute bingo cards to players and provide markers or tokens to cover the squares as they are called out. The game leader can then call out the sustainable action or environmental topic, and players can mark off the corresponding square on their bingo card. The first player to complete a row, column, or diagonal on their card wins.



# ONE

Ice breaking and warming up activity

## One word at the time

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 10 min**

Description: Create a surprise sentence by saying one word at a time. The topic of the sentence should be water pollution. The first person in the group says one word to a topic. The next person continues with another word. Eventually, the group creates a whole sentence by each member contributing only one word at a time. The outcome is always unexpected & almost always funny. Make sure people don't say two words when using articles or pronouns.

# Kahoot!

Ice breaking and warming up activity

## Kahoot!

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 1 hour**

The game promises loads of fun and knowledge, as the competition questions focus on essential water scarcity and water pollution topics. Test your wits and learn fascinating facts through engaging questions such as:

- How much water is used for a 15-minute shower?
- How long can a camel live without water?
- What elements compose water? (H<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub>H, O<sub>2</sub>H, etc.)
- What causes acid rain? (industrial pollution, large number of cars, mining, etc.)
- How long can a human survive without water?
- What to do in case of a tsunami? (run, find a bunker, climb on top of the house?)
- How many sea species disappear every year?
- 

Get ready to test your knowledge, have a blast, and engage in friendly competition! The Kahoot Ice Breaking activity promises to energize and educate, setting the perfect tone for an exciting event ahead.





Reflection activity

# Zero plastic

**Number of participants: As many as possible**

**Duration: 1 week/month/day, depending on feasibility**

This activity aims to provide young people with a unique opportunity to gain a better understanding of the issues surrounding plastic use and the easy steps that can be taken to reduce it. To incentivize this, the activity could be created as a competition with rewards for those who complete the task within the agreed time period. By taking the initiative to break the habit of buying plastic, the volunteers have the potential to continue their journey of environmental conservation and influence the behaviours of their close relationships. By setting an example and leading by example, the volunteers can potentially inspire those around them to take similar steps to reduce their plastic consumption and help protect the environment. Raising awareness of an issue or cause can be an effective way to communicate a message. Rather than simply discussing the issue, real-life activities can help spread the message.

Link: <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>



Reflection activity

# Plastic Wave Documentary

**Number of participants: As many as possible**

**Duration: 25 min**

“A surf photographer, business owner, and father of two is seeing more and more plastic wash ashore his beloved home beach. In a bid to discover the route of this problem he embarks on a journey of discovery to educate himself and understand more about the problem. Along the way, he discovers some alarming issues.” -

Source

Watching a documentary is a great way to learn about plastic quickly. Documentaries provide an in-depth look at the history of plastic, its effects on the environment, and how it can be recycled. Documentaries often feature interviews with experts in the field, allowing viewers to better understand the subject. Documentaries also provide visuals, such as images and videos, to help viewers better understand the topic. By watching a documentary, viewers can get a comprehensive look into the world of plastic and its impact on the environment.

Link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-dpv2xbFyk&ab\\_channel=JamesRoberts](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-dpv2xbFyk&ab_channel=JamesRoberts)





## Reflection activity

# Take a side

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 45 min**

The participants will be asked to be standing in the middle of the room while the facilitator will be reading out a statement related to water/environmental degradation.

The participants who agree with the statement will be asked to move to the right side of the room while the ones who do not agree will be asked to move to the left. The facilitators will encourage all the participants who are undecided, to actually take a side. The facilitators will ask someone from each side to explain why they choose that side, and encourage the participants to try and stay objective about their explanation.

Participants from both sides will get a chance to speak in a 1 by one basis.

The facilitator has to be very strict with the time and the duration of each argument, as the debates can get very intense.

### **Statements:**

- Industrial fishing is sustainable
- Farmed fish is sustainable
- People should not be eating fish
- Solution to water pollution is dilution
- Tourism should not be allowed in the coral reefs



Reflection activity

# Water Footprint

**Number of participants: 4 - 30**

**Duration: 30 min**

This interactive activity allows participants to calculate their water footprint using an online calculator. Through this tool, they input data on water consumption, diet, energy usage, and daily activities to generate a comprehensive analysis. After obtaining the results, participants engage in a period of reflection, contemplating their personal impact on global water resources and identifying opportunities for positive change. They explore areas such as dietary choices, household practices, and personal habits to reduce their water footprint. Following the reflection phase, participants share and discuss their ideas with the group, creating an open and collaborative environment. This exchange of insights, experiences, and strategies encourages participants to inspire and learn from each other, fostering a sense of empowerment and motivating them to implement practical solutions for water conservation. By raising awareness and facilitating group discussions, this activity aims to equip individuals with the knowledge and motivation to become conscious consumers, promoting the long-term preservation of our precious water resources for future generations.

<https://waterfootprint.org/en/resources/interactive-tools/personal-water-footprint-calculator/personal-calculator-extended/>





Reflection activity

# Keep a Trash Journal

**Number of participants: As many as possible**

**Duration: 4 days**

In today's world, many of the products we purchase are packaged in food-grade plastic, cardboard, or foil. To raise awareness about our consumption and disposal habits, consider creating a trash journal with young people. This activity involves recording how much plastic you throw away or recycle every day for 4 days.

To create a trash journal, start by setting up a designated container or bag to collect all of your household's trash for a week. At the end of each day, go through the contents of the container and categorize the waste into different types, such as food waste, plastic packaging, cardboard, or other materials. You can weigh or estimate the amount of each category of waste and record the data in a journal or on a chart. After 4 days, review the data with young people and discuss what you learned.



Reflection activity

# Draw an endangered species

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 1 hour**

In this engaging activity, participants embark on a journey to explore endangered species. Individually or in pairs, they research and select their favorite endangered animal, then express their creativity by drawing a detailed picture of the species. Through their artwork, participants showcase the unique characteristics of the animal and raise awareness about its endangered status. During the presentation, they explain the threats faced by the species and suggest actionable steps to help protect and conserve it. This activity fosters knowledge, creativity, and advocacy, inspiring participants to become champions for endangered species and promote a sustainable future.





## Reflection activity

# Spot 5 unsustainable things

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 1 day**

In this impactful activity, participants are tasked with observing and documenting five unsustainable (water-unfriendly) aspects within their local shop or supermarket through photography. They keenly identify items that contribute to water pollution, such as excessive plastic packaging or single-use plastic bags. Participants not only capture these unsustainability issues but also explain the reasons behind their adverse environmental impact.

Moreover, if feasible, participants collaborate with the coordinator or teacher to organize a public exhibition in a public space or school. This exhibition serves as a powerful platform to raise awareness about water pollution, showcasing the captured photographs and conveying the urgent need for change. Through this collective effort, participants aim to educate others, promote sustainable practices, and inspire positive action to combat water pollution and protect our precious water resources.





## Reflection activity

# Social media competition

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 1 day**

Young people are very good with social media and most of them are also very active. We are going to ask the participants to make fun and entertaining social media posts on their personal accounts.

Once the event unfolds, it's time to unleash your creativity on your personal social media accounts! Your mission? Craft fun and entertaining posts that not only capture the essence of the event but also highlight a few key lessons you've taken to heart. We're all about community and impact, so don't forget to include the hashtags #Erasmus+, #GreenKayak, #Peopleof2050, and more in your posts to reach a wider audience and connect with others who share your passion for positive change.

As the event concludes, the posts will form a virtual gallery of inspiration and reflection, showcasing your unique perspectives and experiences. Celebrate the power of reflection, the joy of learning, and the positive influence of social media in making a difference. Step up to the challenge, embrace your creativity, and let your voice be heard in the Social Media Competition Reflection Activities!





Reflection activity

# Pictionary game

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 1 hour**

Description: Divide the youth into two teams. Choose a word or phrase related to the environment or protecting the environment, such as, "recycling", "renewable energy", "good drinking water", "deplasticization". The first team's member must draw the selected word or phrase, and the other team members must guess what they have drawn. A point is awarded to the team if they correctly guess the word or phrase. If they are wrong, the opposing team wins the point. The second team choose a word or phrase and draws after the first team has finished, and so on.

Young people will learn through play about numerous environmental aspects and how they can protect the environment through the environment-themed Pictionary game.



## Reflection activity

# Make a Saving Water Poster

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 2 hours**

In pairs or small groups, the class/ group creates posters to be displayed around the school/ house. The aim of each poster is to explain why people need to move away from using unfriendly-water products and to show alternative and more environmentally friendly options. How to do it: Find some coloured pens or pencils and a big sheet of paper (reuse paper or use recycled paper if you can); write in simple words why it is important to save water. You can come up with your own or pick from this list:

- Any water we waste means less natural water for birds and animals;
- Water costs money. Wasting water is the same as throwing away money;
- Sometimes there is not enough water to go around. At these times, wasting water means other people can't have any;
- Wasting water at home means there is less for farmers to grow your food.

Remember, it is a poster, not a story, so you don't want too many words. Just pick the most important ones and use the rest of the space for pictures.





Development activity

# Go GreenKayaking

**Number of participants: 2 per kayak (20 per tour)**

**Duration: 2 hours**

Take your group and get an experience of protecting the environment in a rather unusual setting. We recommend the concept of GreenKayak as inspiration for your specific group framework. The NGO uses kayaks to disrupt the participants from their usual setting and direct their focus toward a fun activity while collecting trash. Going on a GreenKayak is having fun for two hours on the water while acting for the environment. When young people paddle on the water, they face the reality of pollution and can act directly. Visualizing the issue rather than listening to someone else talking about it helps us understand that plastic pollution is to be tackled to save our oceans. Using their hands to be part of the solution and having fun simultaneously is an activity that can be offered at all times and at no cost.

GreenKayak is only a means, but this awareness-raising activity can be developed with a boat, a paddle, or any other way. Find more information about GreenKayak at our best practices.



## Development activity

# Treasure hunt through the city

**Number of participants: As many as possible**

**Duration: 4 hours or a full day**

A treasure trash hunt through the city is a fun and educational activity that combines a scavenger hunt with a trash cleanup. It encourages participants to explore the city and learn about sustainability while positively impacting the environment.

To organize a treasure trash hunt through the city, you must first identify a specific area or neighborhood where the hunt will occur. You can also create a map or clues to guide participants to different locations within the area.

Next, you can hide various "treasures" in the area, such as small prizes or environmental education materials, and provide participants with a list of items to find. These items could include different types of litter, such as plastic bottles, cigarette butts, food wrappers, and more unique items that promote environmental awareness, such as a reusable water bottle or a brochure about sustainable living.

Participants will then search for the items on the list while collecting any trash or litter they find. The team that finds the most treasures and collects the most trash at the end of the hunt can win a prize or recognition for their efforts.





Development activity

# Video workshop

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 2 hours**

Participants, ranging from 10 to 30 individuals, will form dynamic groups and delve into a series of short videos. Each video will delve into diverse aspects such as plastic pollution, fertilizers' impact, wastewater challenges, and the pressing issue of overfishing.

As the videos unfold, you'll witness firsthand the environmental challenges that confront our planet today. But don't stop there! Embrace your role as an active learner and absorb key insights from each video, uncovering valuable learning points.

After the screening, it's time to come together and share the wealth of knowledge gained during the workshop. Engage in lively discussions, articulate your thoughts, and enlighten others with your newfound understanding.

By the end of this enlightening experience, you'll not only be equipped with a deeper awareness of environmental issues but also empowered to take action.



Development activity

# Upcycled (mini) boat race

**Number of participants: Smaller groups**

**Duration: 2 hours**

Create a floating vessel using discarded or waste materials with the purpose of making a race. This can be a fun and innovative way to reuse materials and give them another

To start, you need to gather materials such as plastic bottles, discarded wood, old tires, and any other buoyant materials that can be used to construct the boat. Then, using tools such as a saw, hammer, nails, and glue, you can build the boat by designing and assembling the materials to create a sturdy and functional vessel.

Once you have built the boat, the next step is to create a race out of it. This involves identifying a starting point and a finishing line. You can also establish rules and guidelines for the race. To make the race more exciting, you could also offer prizes for the first boat to arrive at the finishing line. This could be something simple like a small trophy or a gift card, or you could choose to make the prize more substantial to encourage participants to put more effort into building their boats and winning the race.





Development activity

# UpCycling-artistic creations

**Number of participants: 10 people**

**Duration: 2 hours**

In this hands-on activity, participants will receive a basic introduction to videomaking, learning the essential skills to create captivating videos. Divided into dynamic subgroups of 5-6 participants, each team will embark on a thrilling mission to produce a fun and entertaining short video. The challenge? Combining online footage with real-life shots to craft a unique and engaging visual story.

After the creative journey, it's time for the moment of truth. The workshop concludes with a friendly competition, where participants will screen their masterpieces, and everyone gets a chance to cast their votes. Fairness is paramount, as teams won't be able to vote for their own creation!

As the applause settles, the winning team will be crowned and rewarded with a special prize, celebrating their outstanding videomaking prowess. But the excitement doesn't end there! The best videos will be showcased on social media, reaching a broader audience and showcasing the talents of our creative participants.





Development activity

# Video competition

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 2 hours**

Upcycling, a transformative process, involves turning waste materials into valuable, new products. In this activity, participants embrace the concept by utilizing discarded plastic caps and cans as their artistic medium. Through their creativity and resourcefulness, they craft beautiful and one-of-a-kind pieces of art that not only reduce waste but also inspire others to engage in creative reuse. This hands-on experience encourages participants to see the potential in seemingly mundane objects, promoting sustainability, and fostering a deeper appreciation for the power of upcycling in our quest for a more environmentally conscious world.

By engaging in this upcycling activity, participants not only contribute to waste reduction but also become agents of change, driving forward the shift towards a more circular and eco-conscious society. Through their artistic endeavors, they remind us that with a little imagination and resourcefulness, we can turn what is discarded into something extraordinary, breathing new life into our materials and redefining our relationship with waste.





Development activity

# National solutions

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 2 hours**

Participants will be divided into country groups (or regional groups) to delve into the most significant water pollution issues facing their areas. Through comprehensive research, each group will uncover the current solutions implemented by authorities to address these challenges.

In an empowering showcase of public speaking, participants will present their findings to the rest of the group, articulating the identified problems, the effectiveness of existing solutions, and their potential shortcomings. The floor is open for constructive discussions and exchange of ideas.

But the journey doesn't end there! Embrace your role as forward-thinking problem solvers as you propose alternative solutions that might work even better. Collaborate, brainstorm, and let your creativity shine as you envision a greener, cleaner future for your nations or regions.



Development activity

# Make your own greeting card

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 2 hours**

Armed with a variety of water-damaging materials such as plastic and plastic corks, as well as recycled paper and colors, participants will create their unique greeting cards.

The magic lies in the personal touch! Craft your heartfelt messages on the cards, addressing them to a teammate, a participant from another team, or a beloved classmate. The act of giving a personal, handmade card holds special significance, conveying care and thoughtfulness like no other.

By incorporating recycled materials, we also embrace sustainability and environmental awareness, adding an extra layer of meaning to our creative endeavors. It's a wonderful opportunity to foster connections, spread joy, and make cherished memories that will last a lifetime.





Brainstorming activities

# Geopolitics of the oceans

**Number of participants: 10 - 30**

**Duration: 2 hours**

Join a diverse group of 10 to 30 participants, divided into teams of 3 or 4, representing influential entities like Greenpeace, SeaShepherd, EU government, Japanese government, Mowi company (Norway), and Maruha Company (Japan). As everyone acknowledges the pressing issue of an ocean overrun with plastic, the mission is clear: halt this dire trend. Engage in intense negotiations, form strategic alliances, and make critical compromises as your group aims to design innovative political agreements. The ultimate goal is to rescue marine life, combat ocean pollution, provide sustenance for the growing global population, and foster economic growth.

Navigating through the complexities of fisheries, plastic pollution, and financial resources, each team must explore creative solutions that will bring about positive change. Will your group lead the charge in shaping a sustainable future for the oceans?

Unleash your diplomacy, strategize with your team, and let your creativity flourish in this thrilling Geopolitics of the Oceans role-play. Together, we can safeguard our precious oceans and forge a brighter, more sustainable tomorrow.



## Brainstorming activities

# Plastic-free hero

**Number of participants: As many as possible**

**Duration: 2 hours**

The young participants will be given the option to select supernatural traits that will make them tolerant of the surroundings and the waterways. Supernatural characteristics that teenagers could select for this project.

Young individuals may choose this supernatural ability to have control over water in order to positively manipulate water. They could help save marine life that is in danger of extinction by using their abilities to clean up polluted rivers, lakes, and oceans. Young people might examine ecosystems on land or in the ocean to detect and address environmental concerns thanks to the miraculous ability of flight.

Animal Communication is a supernatural ability that young people may pick in order to understand and interact with birds and marine animals, making it easier for them to recognize environmental problems and provide assistance. The miraculous ability to heal could enable the young people to save injured sea animals or rebuild natural environments that have been damaged by human activity.

The fundamental notion is that, if they decide on a supernatural ability, they should explain how it supports their goal of protecting and being nice to the seas





## Further reading and resources

# My hero

**Number of participants: 5 - 20**

**Duration: 1 hour**

During the activity, each participant will choose their own environmental hero - a changemaker, activist, environmentalist, influencer, or anyone who has made a positive impact on the environment and society.

Once you've selected your hero, embark on a journey of research and discovery. Learn more about their accomplishments, contributions, and the challenges they've overcome to make a difference. Dive into their stories and let their dedication inspire you.

Next, it's your time to shine. Craft a short, powerful verbal presentation that showcases the heroic efforts of your chosen environmental champion. Share your findings with the rest of the group, igniting discussions and reflections on the impact of these extraordinary individuals.

"My Hero" is a celebration of the positive change-makers who inspire us to take action for the environment.



Further reading and resources

# Persuasive letter

**Number of participants: 5 - 20**

**Duration: 1 hour**

Each participant will take on the role of a persuasive writer, crafting a compelling letter focused on addressing water wastage. Drawing on persuasion strategies, encompassing verbal, nonverbal, and paraverbal communication, participants will strive to make their case in the most compelling and effective way possible.

At the beginning of the activity, participants will be informed of the importance of tailoring their writing style to achieve their goals. Balancing the use of non-forceful language with impactful facts, the letters will reflect the significance of the discussed issue while encouraging action and change.

Throughout the presentation, participants will showcase their mastery of persuasive techniques, delivering their letters in front of the group. Engaging discussions will follow as everyone reflects on the effectiveness of different communication approaches in promoting water conservation.





## Further reading and resources

# Information point

**Number of participants: as many as possible**

**Duration: 2 hours**

Located in a visible and easily accessible area, such as a public park, market square, or schools, the Information Point is designed to raise awareness and empower visitors to take action. Equipped with a table, chairs, and a canopy or umbrella for shade if needed, our Information Point offers a plethora of resources. Delve into a treasure trove of flyers, brochures, and informative materials about water pollution, providing visitors with essential insights and knowledge.

The power of visuals is undeniable, and that's why we supplement our resources with captivating photos and infographics showcasing the impact of water pollution and how individuals can play a vital role in its prevention.

But the experience doesn't stop at reading! To further engage and attract visitors, we've organized exciting activities. From interactive games to quizzes, our activities promise a fun and educational experience for all ages. Visitors can also immerse themselves in a specialized brochure, delving deeper into the issue and exploring potential solutions.





## **PARTNERS:**

GreenKayak  
Denmark  
<https://www.greenkayak.org/>

People of 2050  
Denmark  
<http://www.peopleof2050.org/>

Asociatia Sustine  
Romania  
<https://sustine.org/>

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.  
Environmental Youth Education Squad (EYES) (2022-1-DK01-KA210-YOU-000082179)