



New Opportunities:

Teaching Climate Change through Reading,
Writing, and Social Studies Classes



LOWELL
SCHOOL

Educational Excellence Redesigned

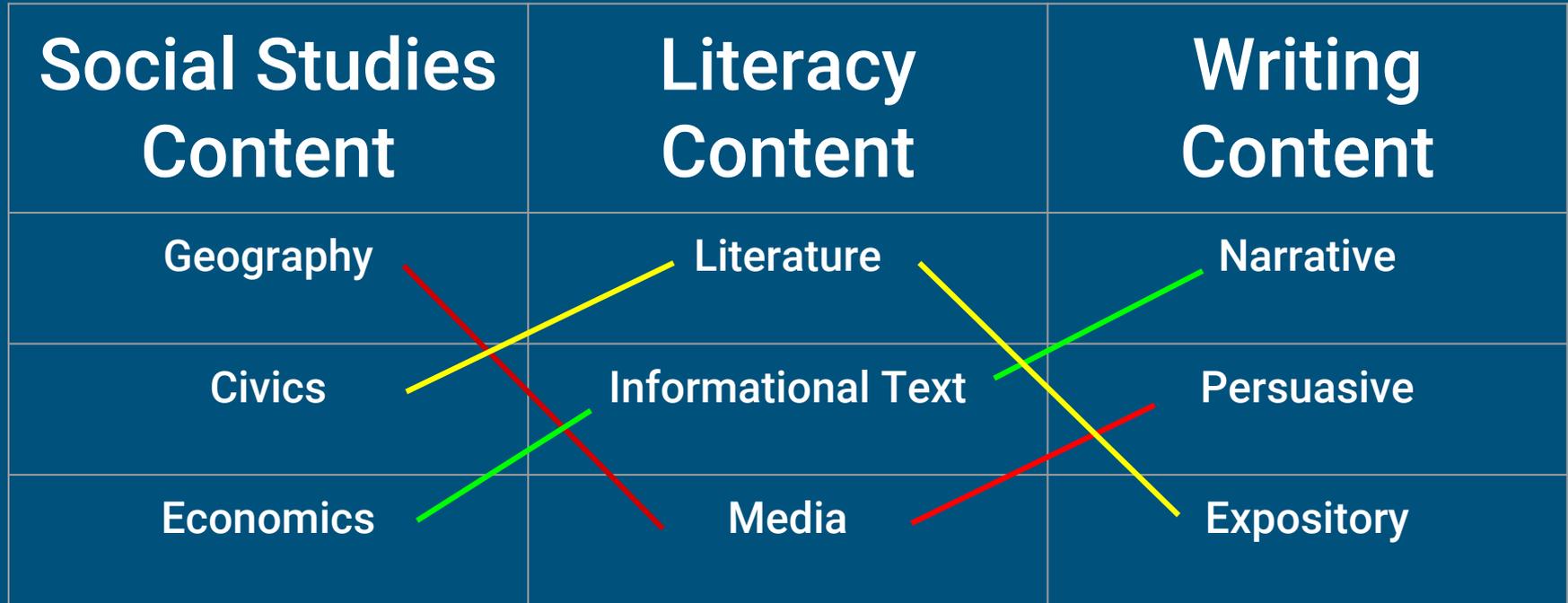


CLIMATE
GENERATION

A WILL STEGER LEGACY

Climate Change and the Citizenship Paradigm

| Social Studies Content | Literacy Content | Writing Content |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Geography | Literature | Narrative |
| Civics | Informational Text | Persuasive |
| Economics | Media | Expository |



Climate
Change
Belongs in
the
Humanities
Discipline



A Big Year at Lowell

MAY

People's Curriculum for the Earth Workshop

Bill Bigelow presented ideas for teaching climate and environmental studies to social studies students through a social justice lens.

NOVEMBER

Lowell School "Climate Summit"

Climate Generation sent trainers to Washington DC to create a day-long climate experience for a small group of teachers, parents, and administrators.

2017

SEPTEMBER

Curriculum Launch

Our first group of sixth graders began a year-long study of climate change.

2016

JUNE

Administrative Conversations

Talking with the Head of School, the Head of Middle School, and the middle school teachers about a new climate change course. Encountering excitement and resistance.

2016

2016

The More the Merrier:

A Big Team Climate Education Team



Administrators

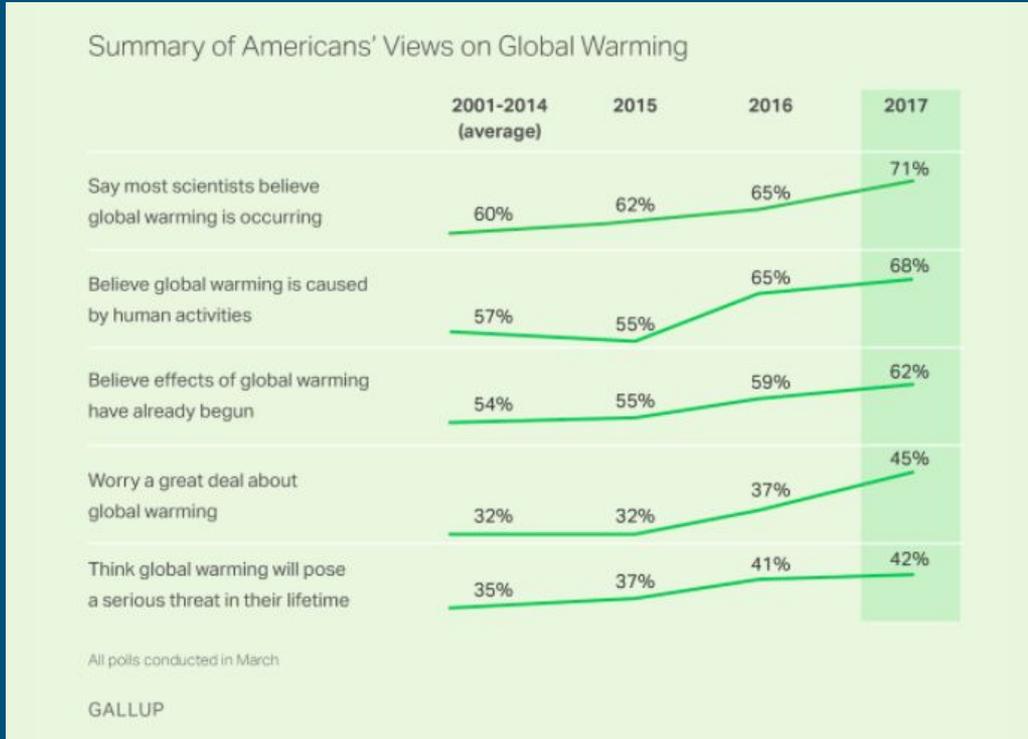
Humanities
Teachers

Science
Teachers

Learning
Support

Climate
Generation

How to Overcome (Teacher, Parent, Student) Opposition



1. Build the lessons from reading, writing, and social studies standards-- not science or climate standards
2. Use materials and resources that are current, from mainstream sources
3. Plan and conduct action projects that authentically benefit the community

The Secret to Success is Community Action

Learning about Climate Change
Naturally Leads to Big Emotions

BALANCED ACTION

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Planned | Flexible |
| Meaningful | Manageable |
| Student-led | Teacher-guided |

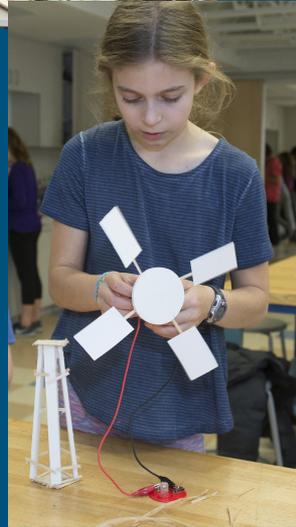
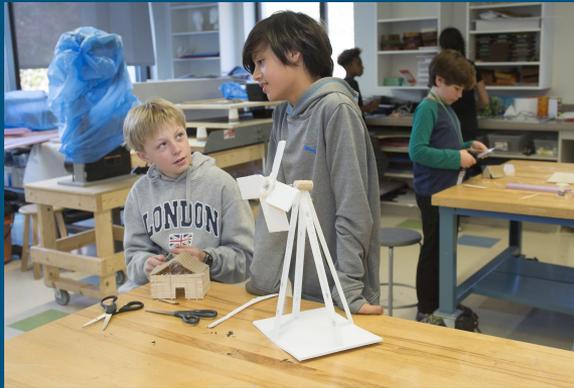


Too Cool for School: Selection of Learning Activities

Fossil Fuels Museum



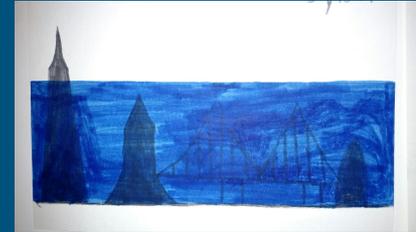
Windmills



Model Communities



Climojis





Plowing Ahead:

Because roads are for journeys,
not for destinations

In collaboration with Climate Generation and other allies:

- Online reading guides for the memoirs and novels
 - Online social studies lessons about climate change based on newspaper articles
 - NCSS Conference (application completed) and NSTA Conference (apply next year)
 - Climate change workshop at Lowell for Humanities teachers in Summer 2019
 - Collaborate with Chesapeake Bay Foundation on overnight field trip
-

Tomorrow's leaders need a strong understanding of civics, economics, and geography and masterful reading and writing skills to address our climate challenges. **It's up to us to prepare them.**

Sources

- [Rogers Adoption/Innovation Curve](#)
- [Gallup: Global Warming Concern at Three Decade High](#)
- [OxFam: Women.Food.Climate.](#)
- [HuffPost: Kids React to Climate Change](#)

