Visioning Possibility - Teacher Guide

To learn more about these activities, please read the Climate Mental Health Activities Introduction

Activity Summary
In this lesson, students will find inspiration from innovative solutions, envisioning a hopeful future and their role in it.

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| Learning Objective     | ● To envision a resilient and hopeful future.  
                          ● To envision one's role in a resilient future. |
| Social-Emotional       | ● Identifying solutions for social problems, Reflecting on one’s role to promote personal, family, and community well-being, Evaluating personal, interpersonal, community, and institutional impacts (CASEL Core Competencies: Responsible Decision-Making) |
| Learning Focus         | |
| Strategies             | 4. Encourage and take action  
                          7. Use social, emotional, and postivie coping skills  
                          9. Cultivate hope and resilience |
| Materials              | ❑ Computers and Internet Access to help inspire solutions |
                          ● Strategies for managing climate change discourse for classrooms in which teaching climate change may be controversial: https://cleanet.org/dev/clean/literacy/tools/controversy.html |

Instructional Process

1. Have students close their eyes and imagine what a resilient future would look like- a world in which people can withstand or recover from difficult conditions. For some classes and students it may be helpful if the teacher provides models this activity by closing their eyes and describing what they are seeing and feeling in their own vision of a resilient future. If students are having trouble, have they take a look at https://solutions.enactingclimate.org/ and visualize a world in which one of the listed solutions was fully enacted.
2. Engage students by sharing innovative and interesting ways that address climate change.
   - Feeding cows seaweed could decrease their methane emissions
   - 8 Crazy Inventions That Can Save the Planet
   - Solutions | Project Drawdown (Drawdown Solutions adapted for your students can be found at enactingclimate.org)
   - Green Revolution
   - Ecochallenge

3. Ask students to brainstorm their own innovative ideas about how to address climate change. The sky is the limit! Encourage innovation and ingenuity. Have students draw what their innovations look like, and share them with the rest of the class. Note: Students will need some prior knowledge of climate change science and its impacts in order to think of solutions.

Closure

Ask students to reflect on the impacts that their invention could have on their community and the environment. What current or future role can they have on their community and in mitigating the impacts of climate change?