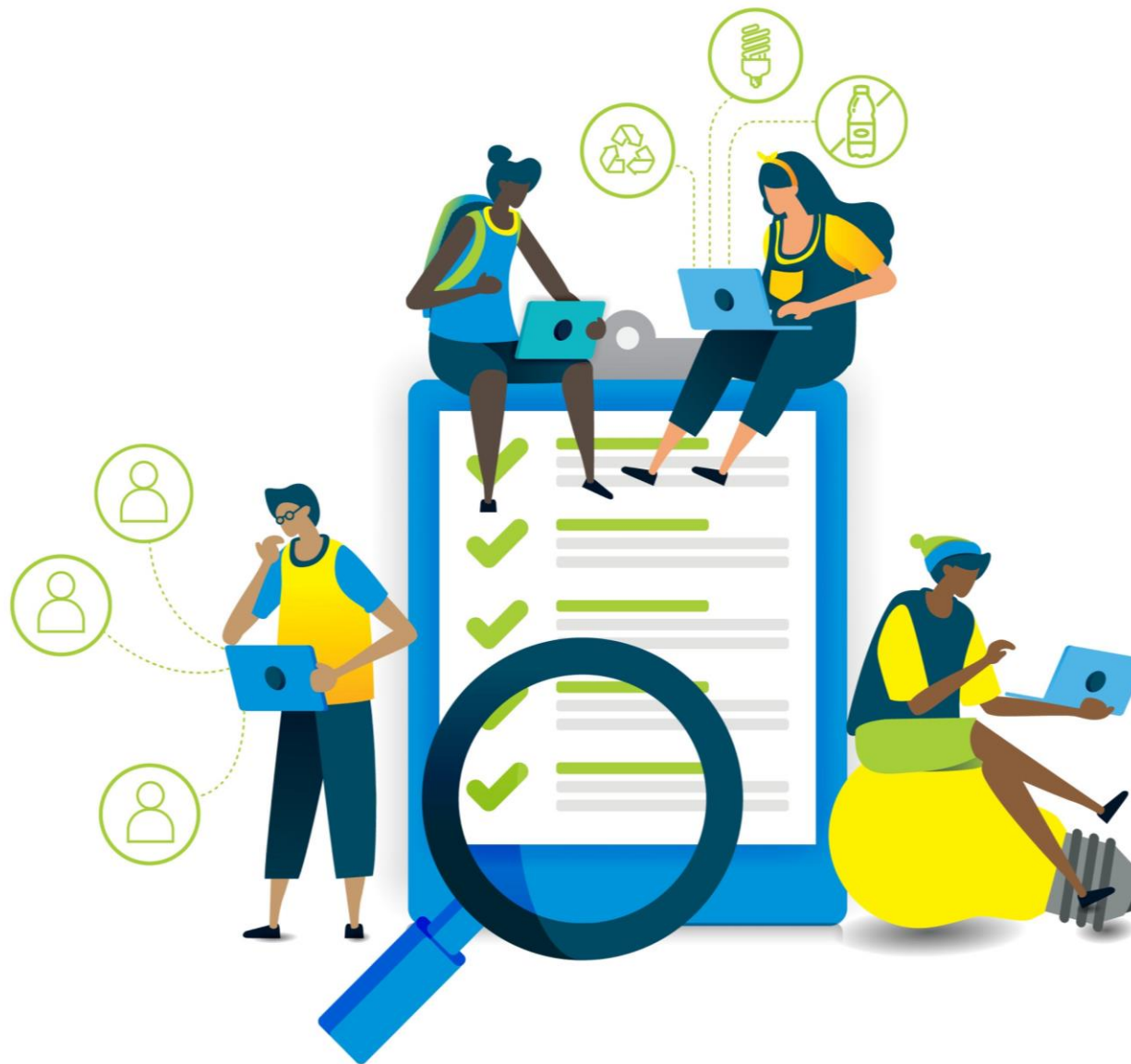


Activity 1

Select a climate action

Activity outcome: Use this activity to decide on a climate action to focus on and then apply SMART thinking.

➤ **Time:** The activity can be done in stages, in your own time.



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Activity 1: Select a climate action

To complete the activity, follow Steps 1 to 3 and fill in your [Climate Activation Framework](#).

Step 1

Choose your climate theme

The first thing to do in your campaign development is decide what you want to focus on.

Look at the key themes which have substantial climate impacts, shown in Table 1 (p. 3), and either:

- Choose a theme you have already been focusing on in school, or
- Discuss which is most relevant in your school at the moment (see top tips).



Step 2

What do you want to change?

You now need to identify which specific behaviours people in school will need to change to achieve your theme.

This could involve **doing something new**, **doing current things better**, or **breaking old habits**.

- Read examples of some climate action behaviours in Table 2 (p. 3).
- Brainstorm and research different options for your theme.
- Decide on specific action(s) to take forward. To help you decide think about:
 - Will the action have a big impact? How ambitious can you be? Which actions will bring about the most change?
 - What is the likelihood of change? How easy will the action be to carry out, for instance is it affordable?

Top tips

If you have completed our [Climate Action Survey](#), use your insights report to help you decide which theme to focus on:

- What actions are students most willing to do?
- What would they like your school to prioritise?

For more of a challenge, you may want to select a theme that students are not so willing to do but is still very important.

- For example, students are often less willing to make their diet more environmentally friendly despite this being a really important area.

Activity 1: Select a climate action

Table 1

Key themes said by the world's scientists to be critical in reducing our Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions.



Energy

Reduce our use and move to renewable sources



Food

Make our diet more environmentally friendly and throw less away



Travel

Choose ways to get around that have less impact



Nature

Help protect and improve outside spaces and nature



Waste

Cut down on what we throw away by reducing use, reusing and recycling



What we buy

Think about the impact of what we buy and use



Other themes

Table 2

Climate action behaviours

We define **climate action behaviours** as the 'doing' that's carried out by **people** - it is the changes in behaviour that are needed to achieve your chosen theme. Here are just some examples:

Theme	Examples of climate action behaviours
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Switch off equipment (lights, computers). Support technological changes e.g. renewable energy, new heating systems.
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eat less meat. Buy more local and seasonal produce. Reduce food waste.
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase sustainable travel like cycling to schools. Encourage walking linked with health and wellbeing.
Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant and nurture trees. Look after, enjoy and participate in nature.
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop using single-use plastic in the canteen. Recycle everything from glue sticks to crisp packets.
What we buy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change and limit what we consume. Use more environmentally friendly products.

For more ideas see [Action in Schools - InterClimate Network](#)

Activity 1: Select a climate action

Step 3

Work through SMART categories

SMART goals allow you to agree what you are hoping to achieve, making sure everything is clear and achievable.

- Work through the questions in each of the SMART categories, shown in Table 3, to agree the details of your specific action.
- Write up your answers in the Climate Activation Framework.

Congratulations on all your work so far.

You can now start [Activity 2](#).



Table 3

SMART categories

Specific	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Who is your target audience? For instance, teachers, students, school leaders or a combination.What is your target area? Where and when will the action need to take place? For instance, in all classrooms or daily in the canteen.
Measurable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">What is the measurable target you would like to achieve? Think about how ambitious you can be and how you could measure change.
Achievable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Whose support do you need for the action to be achievable (alongside the target audience)? For instance, will parents or your senior leadership team need to support you?
Relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Why is this action needed right now, in your view?
Time-bound	<ul style="list-style-type: none">What is your end date? For instance, when do you aim to achieve your measurable target?