



Climate Action Team



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Brief Introduction

Hello,

Although many of our projects have been paused over the coronavirus lockdown, as the climate action team, we are trying to keep as much momentum going as possible. This newsletter is both to keep you up to date on our activities, and to suggest things that you can try at home over the summer that are both fun and eco-friendly. We hope that everyone is well, and anyone who would like to know more after reading this newsletter can email climateactionteam@chewvalleyschool.co.uk or head over to our

Instagram page [@cvsclimate](https://www.instagram.com/cvsclimate)

~ Jenny Heath

Global Climate

The coronavirus has had an awful impact on the world in general, costing countless lives and forcing millions into lockdown. However, despite all of these negatives, coronavirus has had an extremely positive impact on our climate. This year, carbon emissions are predicted to fall by 2,600 million tonnes of CO₂. This is the largest year on year decrease in the past 200 years in terms of human contributions to the climate crisis that we are currently facing.

This year, emissions are currently predicted to be 8% below 2019 levels. This is due to the lockdowns that have been imposed in many countries around the world, particularly in China, where emissions have fallen 25% over the months of lockdown. The number of commuters has decreased globally, as well as the number of international flights taking place. Demand for oil has dropped worldwide, contributing to a growing acceleration of the share that renewables hold in the energy market. This drop is in line with the 7.5% decrease in carbon emissions per year needed to achieve only 1.5°C of global warming in total.

We need to sustain this change if we want to have any hope of avoiding a climate disaster in the near future. Emissions need to continue to fall by this amount every year. So far, coronavirus has killed 528,000 people worldwide. Unless we seriously change our patterns of CO₂ emissions, 5,000,000 people will die due to climate change between 2030 and 2050 – 5 times as many as have died due to coronavirus. The climate crisis is an emergency as serious as coronavirus. Unless we take the lessons from coronavirus, the pattern of deaths will continue.

The coronavirus crisis has shown that the world can operate with fewer flights, fewer commuters and less oil consumption. We should not allow these carbon emitters to return to normal as soon as the immediate danger is over. Governments should take action to ensure that the positive aspects of the lockdown remain. Coronavirus has shown us how easily emissions can be reduced if governments actually try. We should not accept any more excuses, emissions must stay at coronavirus levels, even once the threat is over, otherwise we risk a much greater loss of life in the near future.

Crafts you can do at home

No sew t shirt bag

Every year over 500 billion plastic bags are used worldwide and in the UK more than 300,000 tonnes of clothing goes into landfill. This craft is a great way to cut down on waste and is also a fun activity to do in lockdown.

What you'll need:

- An old t shirt
- Sharp scissors
- Fabric pen to decorate (optional)

Method:

Lay your t shirt out on the table then cut off the sleeves

Cut around the neck of the t-shirt (see picture)

Cut 2cm slits into the bottom of the t-shirt on the front and back

Keep the slits lined up and tie the aligning front and back pieces together in double knots

Decorate your bag (optional)

If you're confused with these instructions watch this video to help

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zgpaM3u2zng> ~ Kaia Holt



Some hair dyes contain chemicals that can badly damage the environment, and there are alternatives you can use to dye your hair using natural products.

1. Turmeric and water

Turmeric is a yellow coloured spice which has a staining ingredient inside. If you dip it in your hair for 15 minutes, you can get a nice blonde colour.

2. Beetroot juice.

If you've had beetroot before, you know how much it stains things a purple-y red colour. If you use it to dye your hair, you can have redy-purplely toned hair.

3. Henna+

Henna is a brown, plant based dye used for temporary tattoos. If you mix henna with water and apply it to your hair. Leave it for 12 hours and wash your hair after without conditioning it. ~ Ruby Miller

How to make beeswax wraps:

Ingredients -

20 x 30 cm material, 30g grated beeswax, Clothes hanger, Old paintbrush, Baking tray and Baking paper

Method

- ~Spread the baking paper over the tray, and place the material on top.
- ~Spread the grated beeswax evenly over the material, making sure the edges and corners are covered.
- ~Place the tray in the oven for 3 minutes at a low heat at gas mark 1.
- ~Take the tray out and use the paintbrush to spread out any pools of beeswax. At this point you may need to add a little more beeswax to certain areas.
- ~Put the tray back in the oven for about 3 minutes, depending on how much beeswax was melted.
- ~Take out the tray and, whilst wearing gloves, pick up the material and hang it up on a clothes hanger. Leave the wraps to dry for at least 1 hour before using. ~ Becky Heath

Homemade Face-Covering

~ Emily Cannon

Now that we have to wear face coverings in enclosed spaces such as public transport, it's better for the planet to make your own masks that can be washed and reused. Linked below is a tutorial on how to make your own, and all you will need to make it is some fabric – recycled clothes are fine - a plate to draw round, a needle and thread, scissors, an iron and some string or elastic (two pieces to go behind your ears or one longer piece to go right around your head). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GahPAbzAPyU>



What you need: ~ Elektra Psarakis

A small plastic bottle, String, A sharp object, Scissors/a craft knife, and Two wooden spoons or two sticks

Method:

- Cut 4 holes into the bottle
- Put your sticks/wooden spoons in the holes
- Poke holes roughly the same size as the bird seed in the bottle with a sharp object
- Poke holes to hang your string and fill your bird feeder with bird seeds



You can find a more in-depth explanation here <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/how-to-make-a-bird-feeder.html>

Eco friendly shops ~ Lily Hobbs

There are a lot of shops that we go to regularly that are not eco-friendly. To try and help combat the climate crisis, even if it is in the smallest way possible, consider going to some of these eco-friendly shops near you!

Shop name	Address	How far away from chew valley school (miles)	Stars
Zero green	80 North St, Southville, Bristol BS3 1HJ	7 miles	4.5
Better food	-94A Whiteladies Rd, -Clifton, Bristol BS8 2QX -1-5 Gaol Ferry Steps, Bristol BS1 6WE	(white ladies road) - 10 miles (ferry steps) - 9.7 miles	3.5
Scoop whole foods Bath	Unit 3, The Grain Store, Bath BA2 3GS	14 miles	4.8

Quick Tips for living an eco friendly lifestyle ~ Phoebe Thomas

During lockdown, the climate crisis has been pushed aside slightly, and while the planet has seen some incredible environmental changes, there are still things we need to do. Here are 4 tips to be more eco-friendly.

1. Buy local, 2. Don't throw away old vegetable tops [Learn more here](#), 3. Reuse it - instead of throwing away that plastic bottle, why not paint it and use it as a plant pot for some flowers? 4. Be conscious - do you really want/ need the things that you see on ads?

Boycotting Companies

Because of quarantine, everyone has been spending a LOT of time on the internet. People have also been buying things online from companies, for example Amazon. However, some of those companies aren't particularly environmentally friendly. In fact, Amazon is one of the least ethical companies on the planet. They make billions of pounds in sales but pay workers poverty wages. Also, because of their super-fast delivery, they have loads of delivery trucks out there, all releasing emissions.

But there are greener, more ethical alternatives, for example, companies like **Traidcraft**, **Hive**, **Ethical Superstore** and more. If you prefer to use more mainstream companies, try ordering from **Dell**, **Apple**, **Samsung**, **Cinema Paradiso**, **Superdrug**, **John Lewis**, etc. Boycotting companies like Amazon and switching to these to buy your online shopping will be better for the planet, and for your own carbon footprint. Give it a try!

You can also switch to more ethical search engines like **Duck Duck Go** and **Ecosia**. Ecosia is the search engine that plants trees with its ad revenue – it has already planted over 6 million trees! ~ Isobel Baker