

module 2

connecting through yarn

2

Activity 2: Connecting through yarn

Activity presentation

Note : This facilitation tool is widely used in different educational and community spaces. It is a simple and effective way to demonstrate how individuals in a group are connected. It has been adapted to meet this module's learning aims.

In this activity, students will take some of the elements that they recognized in the previous activity, as well as other human and non-human beings, and consider how they are related to each other. Recognizing the relationships between human and non-human beings, and the impacts of human action on these relationships is a core aim of climate change education. As young students begin to see themselves as part of this world rather than apart from it, it can set the stage for further and larger conversations of our responsibilities towards each other and the Earth.

Matériaux



1-2 large balls of yarn or thread



Words or images of different animals, plants and things in your community

Activity breakdown

1

Give each student a word or image of an animal, plant or other thing that they might have seen in the previous activity, “Connecting with the outside”. Make sure to include other elements that exist in your community but that students may not have noticed. These can include different human and non-human beings, as well as cars, and elements such as the sun, wind, clouds and rain.

Activity breakdown (continued)

2

Ask all students to stand in a circle.

3

Students will now pass around a ball of yarn, connecting their own card to another, holding onto the end of the ball, thus creating a web. For younger students, teachers may create a story that incorporates all of the cards, demonstrating their connections. For instance, the sun shines brightly on the tree, which then provided shade to a kid reading a book. Older students can be invited to think of the connections themselves. However, try to encourage students to pass the ball to every student once, so that everyone has a chance to participate in the web.

4

After the ball of yarn has run out, or every card has been used, invite the students to admire the web they have created.

Conclusion

Explain to students that this web represents a web of life, or the ways in which all living beings are connected to each other. Ask one of the students to tug on the string they are holding onto. Students should be able to see that movement in one part of the web will affect every other part of the web. The elements that are closest to the tug will feel it more intensely, but the movement will reverberate through the entire web. If a string is tugged on hard enough, or too many students pull on it at the same time, a student might let go of the web, causing the web to falter or collapse, or the string to break apart. Explain to students that this symbolizes what happens when some relationships are out of balance. Think together what sorts of actions the tugging could represent.