



Bengaluru Climate Action Club

Climate Collective Action Project (C-CAP)

Waste: *Climate Action and Us*

Group Name:

Group Members Names:

This is where you start, run across, earn a few points, plan, act and finish your race of learning and exploration!

This is a student-led project! Work together in your groups, follow each step carefully, and keep moving forward with focus. Along the way, look out for these pitstops, they'll help you check if you're on the right track. Most importantly, enjoy the journey and make your learning meaningful!

Welcome to an exciting learning journey!

Hello young changemakers of Bengaluru!

Did you know our city generates over 6,000 tonnes of waste daily? That's enough to fill 1,000 school buses! When waste isn't managed properly, it pollutes our lakes, clog drains, and releases harmful gases like methane - making Bengaluru hotter and unhealthier. But here's the good news: *you* can be part of the solution! How does this impact our climate? What actions can you take today to be part of the solution? Together, as a team, this is exactly what you will explore here!

In this project, you will:

- Discover how Bengaluru's waste fuels climate change.
- Interview local heroes like *pourakarmikas* and ragpickers.
- Take action in your school or neighbourhood to reduce waste.
- Share your ideas creatively to inspire others.

The Journey so far!

- ✓ Completed the Audit
- ✓ Decided YOUR Theme and Climate Action(s)

- ✓ Planned some Actions – Filled Climate Action Plan Template

Achieving our Climate Action Goals – Next Steps!

- ✓ One school-level activity
- ✓ One cluster-level activity
- ✓ One Collective Action Project for your chosen theme
- ✓ Document your Journey on the Portal

Tip: *Take notes or photos - they'll help you create an awesome final presentation! To demonstrate the improvement of the adjustments and actions you would implement in your school, save some notes, bills, and supporting documentation. It could surprise you!*

Let's get started. Small steps today = big changes tomorrow!

Do your best and remember, this is not a race or competition, but a learning adventure!

Step 1: Who Am I? (My Daily Waste Habits)

Ever thrown something in the bin and never thought about it again? Let's rewind and reflect!

What to Do:

Sit with your group and think:

- What kinds of waste do we throw at home and in school?
- Where do we throw it?
- Have we seen waste lying around the neighbourhood?
- What happens to it later?

Discuss your answers in your groups and write your answers shortly on the table on next page

Be honest! It's our journey to learn and do better! Mistakes are where change begins.

Questions	Member 1	Member 2	Member 3	Member 4	Member 5
What waste do I throw daily?					
Do I separate wet/dry waste at home?					
Have I ever seen a pile of garbage on the street? What did I do?					

One small thing I can do to reduce waste					
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Table to fill

Step 2: Sharing & Learning (What’s Wrong with Our Waste?)

Out of sight, out of mind? Not really. Landfills don’t eat up garbage, they spit out trouble!

Discuss your answers in your group:

- What happens when we don’t segregate wastes?
- How does garbage cause air and water pollution?
- Why does waste-burning make the air toxic?
- Who suffers the most when waste piles up; who cleans it?

Did you know!

- Only 48% of Bengaluru households segregate waste!
- Methane from rotting waste in landfills (like Bellahalli) is 25x worse than CO₂ for climate change!

- Burning plastic releases toxins, worsening Bengaluru's air quality and ranked India's 2nd most polluted city in 2023!
- Pourakarmikas face health risks sorting mixed waste!

Take note of your discussion points in your responses for future references

Ask your school's cleaning staff what kinds of waste they struggle with most.

Step 3: Exploring Our Society (Waste Watching!)

Grab your eyes and notebooks, t's time to track where your trash travels!

You can align this to your audit and your Climate Action Plan! If any of the questions are repeating like the ones you found in your audit. Use this segment to fill in any gaps you find! Look around you!

If you feel like you have already covered these points in your audit report, look if you have missed anything, if not, skip this step!

Did you know that when waste rots or burns, it releases harmful gases like methane and carbon dioxide? These gases trap heat in the air, making the Earth hotter, this is called climate change! And yes, even our dustbins are part of the problem if we don't manage them right.

So, let's go waste-watching and see what's heating up our Earth!

What to Do:

Individually, walk around your home, street, or school (safely!) and observe. Take note and share your observations with your group:

- Where is the waste? On the road? In a drain? In a dustbin?
- What type of waste is it? (food, plastic, paper, mixed, e-waste?)
- Is any waste being burnt? The burnt wastes release **dioxins** linked to cancer!
- Are dustbins used properly? Or is waste dumped in the open?
- Are birds, cows, or dogs eating from garbage piles? What happens to them?

Did you know!

- Bengaluru's landfills emit 8% of the city's methane, speeding up climate change.
- Lakes like Bellandur catch fire due to toxic foam from waste pollution!

Step 4: Listening to Voices (Interview the Warriors!)

The real heroes of clean Bengaluru carry brooms or collect our waste - let's hear their stories!"

Here is how you conduct an interview!

- **Greet them:** *"Hello! I'm _____ and I'm doing a school project on Bengaluru's waste management"*
- **Explain your purpose:** *"I would love to ask you a few simple questions about your work and daily life."*
- **Ask for permission:** *"Would it be okay if I take a few minutes of your time?"*
- **Make them comfortable:** *"There are no right or wrong answers! I just want to learn from your experiences."*
- **Listen carefully:** Let them speak without interrupting.
- **Write answers exactly as they say them:** No opinions, just note what they share.
- **Thank them:** *"Thank you so much for sharing your experiences with me! I really enjoyed learning from you. Have a great day!"*

Note: If you feel uncomfortable or the person seems busy, politely move on.

Who to Interview:

- Pourakarmikas (BBMP workers)
 - Ragpickers
 - Household helpers
 - Those who collect waste for recycling in your area
- Fix a person to interview in your mind and prepare a questionnaire prior

Some questions to ask:

1. What happens to the waste you pick up from our house?
Where does it go?
2. What kind of waste is hardest to deal with?
3. What happens when people don't separate waste?
4. What would make your job easier?
5. Does this work affect your health?
6. Have you noticed any changes in our city overtime?
7. What can children like us do to help?

Write down their answers as it's exactly. These insights will help us understand the human side of waste management.

Once everyone finishes the interview, come together as a group to think, share, and discuss your answers.

Did You Know?

- **14,000+ pourakarmikas** work for BBMP, cleaning **6,000+ tonnes** of waste daily. Many are women from marginalized communities.
- **Health Risks:** 60% suffer from respiratory diseases (due to dust/plastic burning) and skin infections (from handling mixed waste without gloves). (*Source: BBMP Health Survey, 2023*)
- **Low Pay:** They earn just **₹17,000/** despite risking their lives. Some walk **15–20 km/day** to collect waste.

Step 5: Reflect & Take Action!



It's time to connect the dots and create change!

Solar lights, Chargeable Cameras and Climate Action!

We're not just thinkers, we're doers! Let's roll up our sleeves.

Discuss:

- What shocked or surprised you most during this project?
- How does waste contribute to climate change?
- What small things can we start doing today?
- You can also do the Active Learning Cycle Project as a team and see what you can do!

Take Action:

Clean Corner Challenge: Pick one dirty corner in your school or street and clean it up as a group. Put a signboard: "We cleaned this corner - Please keep it clean!" Visit it every week and check if it stays clean. If not - clean again! Ask your teacher for the list of activities available and see what	OR Find a dirty spot near you - like a street with waterlogging or garbage. With your group, or with help from parents/teachers, report it to BBMP and follow up till it's fixed How to report: • Call BBMP: 080-22660000 • WhatsApp photos: 9480685700
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you could do for your school as a club!	• Use the Swachhata App or BBMP website to upload a photo complaint.
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Pledge Wall:

- Make a colourful chart where everyone writes one promise to reduce or sort waste.
- Put it up in class or near your dustbin to remind everyone, “We care!”
- If none of these work, think out of the box to curb this issue!

Step 6: Sharing Our Learning!

Time to turn your learning into something cool and creative!

This is your final step where you **showcase all that you've learned** about waste and climate change. But don't just say it **show it creatively!**

Be sure to integrate your Climate Action Plan intervention into this as well-together, it transforms into a complete package of meaningful experiences!

What to Do:

Work as a group and choose a fun, creative way to present your learning by choosing any from these options:

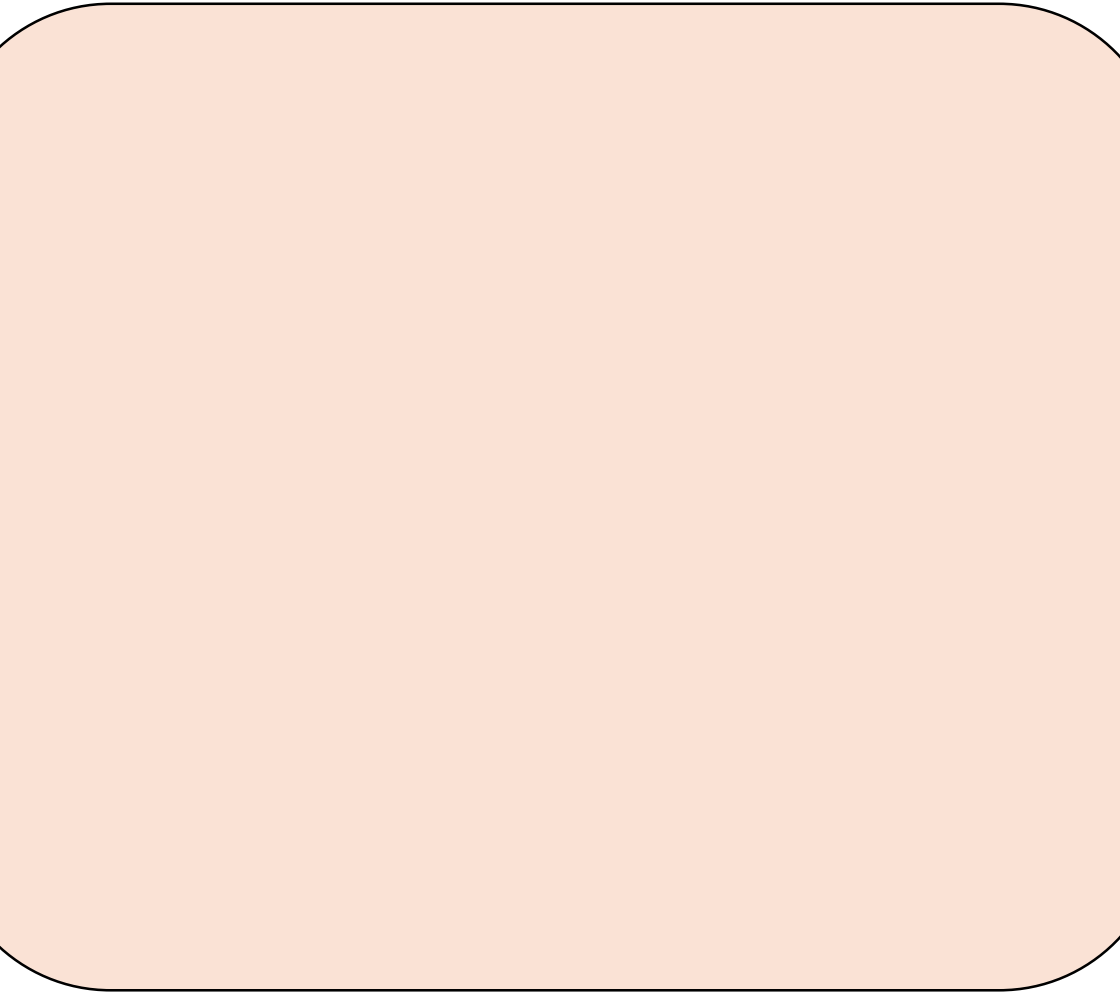
- Make a poster or collage with drawings, photos, and key messages
- Act out a short skit showing a clean vs. messy neighbourhood
- Create a visual story with pictures from your Clean Corner or interviews
- Give a short talk or poem about how waste links to climate change
- PPT is your last resort - try fun and real, include hands-on options first and your learnings from each step of this learning journey

What to Include:

- Journey of waste: How does waste travel? Where does our waste go once it leaves our homes?
- Why waste matters: What happens when we don't manage it properly?
- What we observed: What kinds of waste did we find in our area?
- Interview Insights: What did pourakarmikas and waste workers tell us?
- What did you learn about this aspect affecting our climate and what are your actions?
- Our Action! What did we do for the Clean Corner Challenge or Pledge Wall? What else did we do?

My Thoughts, My Voice!

***Write, doodle, or express through art what you feel about
our journey on Waste around us!***

A large, empty, light orange rounded rectangle with a thin black border, intended for a student to write or draw their response to the prompt above.