PRINTABLE SPEAKER'S NOTES for SESSION 2C: STORIES OF CHANGE - REGENERATING NATURE

Link to PDF classroom presentation:
http://www.LEGO.com/cdn/cs/sustainability/assets/bltde04699ee3cfa406/Session2C_Regenerating_nature.pdf

Italics =suggested speaking script. **Standard text = notes to educator.**

Welcome back class!

Today we continue our journey into a Future Without Waste, exploring the circular economy and all of the cool things it brings.

This is our third Stories of Change session. To remind us, these are sessions that introduce real world examples and case studies of how others are helping us move towards a A Future Without Waste. It shows us how a move from that straight line you saw last time – take, make, waste – to a circular system is way better for people and planet.

Right, let's get started!

Today's topic is Regenerating Nature.

Nature features a lot in this course as it brings so many benefits, in so many different ways.

Before we learn more about this, let's take a look at a few polls.

>>> next

Please note: We have deliberately kept this slide very high level as following slides introduce the topic in more detail, including definitions of some of the key words too.

Before we get going, let's ask ourselves a few questions with a little poll…

Link to the poll:
http://www.LEGO.com/sustainability/buildthechange/polls/AFWW_N_1?CMP=EMC-LCE
Run through the question then ask the class to choose one number that represents how they feel; ask them to raise their hands when you call out that number.

Count the hands for each answer.

Once you've been through all the answers, enter the one with the most votes, then click through to reflect on how the group's answer compared to classrooms around the world.

Poll

1 I don't think it's important at all.

2 It's not that important.

3 I'm not sure.

4 It plays a small role in keeping the planet healthy.
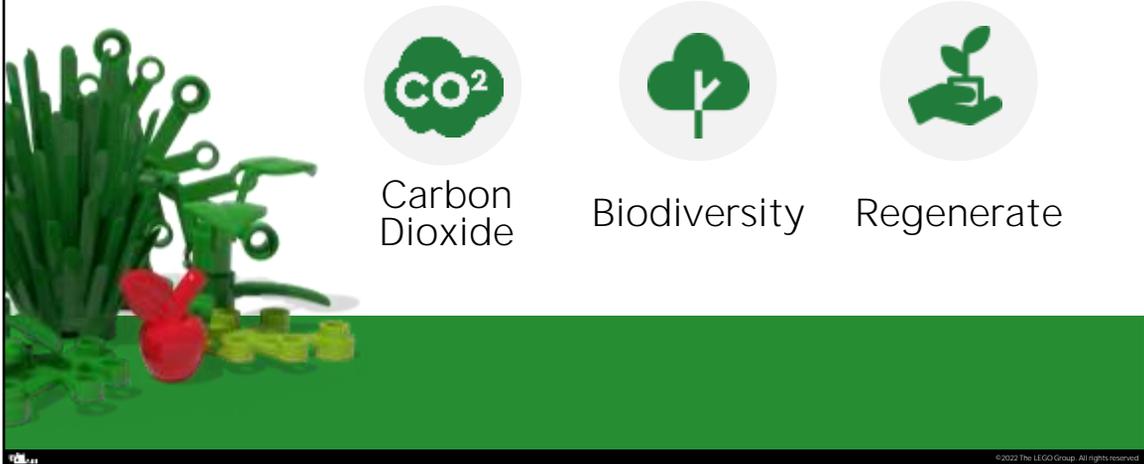
5 Without it, life on our planet would not exist.

How important is nature to the planet?

You should be able to click through to this next poll question at the end of the previous one but if you lose it, the direct link is here:

http://www.LEGO.com/sustainability/buildthechange/polls/AFWW_N_2?CMP=EMC-LCE

Awesome Words

Carbon Dioxide

Biodiversity

Regenerate

Now it's time to introduce the class to some of the key words from the session.

To start with, ask the children if they know any of these words and ask them to describe what they think the mean.

OK class, which of these words do you recognize? Would anyone like to try telling us what they mean?

Carbon Dioxide ----------------------------

Carbon Dioxide is a molecule produced when we breathe and when substances like fossil fuels (e.g. coal and oil) are burned. It isn't great for the planet as it stops heat from escaping into space, meaning the Earth heats up like a greenhouse. You may have heard about greenhouse gases. Carbon dioxide is one of them.

One of the most important cycles in nature is where trees absorb carbon dioxide and convert it to oxygen, which we then breathe and change back into carbon dioxide. If we don't have enough trees and plants on the planet, we will have way too much carbon dioxide in the air.

Biodiversity ----------------------------

This is the number of species in a certain area. Certain habitats like rainforests, for example, have very high biodiversity. Other habitats have low biodiversity, like deserts and mown lawns. We are losing biodiversity on the planet so anything that helps us bring it back is very important. The Circular Economy is one way we can help.

Regenerate ----------------------------

This simply means to regrow or bring back to how something once was. For this session, we are talking about regenerating nature. What might that mean?

Yes, regenerating nature means bringing an area's nature back to how it once was, or close at least.

VIDEO: Stories of Change
Regenerating Nature

OK, let's hear more about how regenerating nature can help us and the planet.

Play video >>>>
http://www.LEGO.com/cdn/cs/sustainability/assets/ blte26a21ca6b6e316e/2C_Regenerating_nature_EN.mp4

For more information on the Biodiversity Tower visit
http://www.ace-cae.eu/activities/eu-funded-projects/connect-arch/20-projects-architectural-projects-against-climate-change/m6b2-tower-of-biodiversity/

http://www.c40knowledgehub.org/s/article/Freetown-s-highly-replicable-way-of-self-financing-urban-reforestation

This example takes us to Africa, to the capital of Sierra Leone, Freetown.

It is an impressive city, surrounded by mountains, mangroves and forests – a lot of nature!

The Challenge

There is however a challenge…

Every year, more than 100,000 people move to the city in search of work. This means that the city is growing in size, and expanding into natural areas, especially the forests surrounding the city.

To make the space to build homes for all of these people, trees are being cut down and this has impacted Freetown in ways they might not have expected.

Without the trees there, what do you think might happen when it rains?

That's right, without the trees to capture the water and regulate the local climate, the city has been experiencing landslides, flooding and coastal erosion.

Less tree and vegetation has resulted in less homes for wildlife and this means biodiversity has also gone down. Not good.

The Solution
To change things for the better, the City Council came up with a brilliant plan to plant and grow 1 million trees. But it didn't stop there.

They also helped people in the community look after the trees and care for them using a TreeTracker app.

How cool is that!

Have you ever seen something similar where you live?

*For more information visit **http://www.c40knowledgehub.org/s/article/Freetown-s-highly-replicable-way-of-self-financing-urban-reforestation***

So let's recap on the benefits…

Read from slide

High Line
New York City, USA

One more example of regenerating Nature is the really cool High Line project in New York City.

Now, New York is a very built up city – loads of skyscrapers, bustling streets and dazzling shops.

The Challenge

As the city is so dense and crowded, there aren't many green spaces where nature can flourish.

The Solution

A raised railroad called the High Line was used up until the 1980s to transport goods around the city since the 1920s.

It was going to be demolished and taken down BUT residents fought to stop this happening, realizing that it could be put to other uses.

Decades later the disused railroad was turned into an elevated walkway with stunning gardens for people to enjoy. Woah!!!

Now it's much more than just a green space. It has gardens, art exhibitions, performances, delicious food and social spaces for people to connect with friends.

For more information visit **http://www.thehighline.org/**

So let's recap on the

benefits...**Read from slide**

Time to reflect

What stood out to you in those stories of change?

The children have been through three case studies by this point.

This slide is an opportunity to reflect and take in all of the information they have just heard.

If you are using the printable Build the Change Course Journal (**http://www.LEGO.com/cdn/cs/sustainability/assets/blt752a44b5e2497010/ course_journal_AFWW_digital.pdf)** ask the children to write down what stood out for them in the case studies, using the box indicated for this session.

If you aren't using the booklet, reflect vocally as a class. Ask the children to share what stood out for them.

Materials needed: In line with the theme of repurposing and keeping things in use for longer, we encourage classes to reuse waste materials lying around in school or at home for these activities.

This activity can also be done with LEGO® bricks.

Key things to help with here are:

Make sure the children understand some of the clear examples they can choose from to help bring back nature.

It might be a car, train, pavement, building, bus stop.

BUT it should be an object rather than a space. This will help focus the creativity.

If you like, you can use our printable ideas cards to let children write out an explanation of their idea/creation:
http://www.LEGO.com/cdn/cs/sustainability/assets/blt05a1a38185a2557e/ BtC_Idea_description_card.pdf

Time's up!

Bring this up once the 5 minutes of "time to create" is up.

Time to share

Show this slide while you give children a chance to share what they designed.

Once they're done with sharing, get them to gather for a wrap up quiz starting on the next slide…

Teachers: Don't forget to upload photos and descriptions of your kids' ideas to our public galleries on LEGO.com, by scanning the QR code on the last slide of this presentation with your phone camera.

Time to Quiz

It is the end of the session! Yay!! Well done everyone!

We'll be finishing up with a quick quiz on some of the things we learned today.

Quiz question 1

Regenerating nature is...

A Bringing back biodiversity to an area.

B Mowing the lawn.

C Painting a beautiful landscape.

You can have children shout out answers or fill in the quiz answers individually in the optional **Course Journals** (http://www.LEGO.com/cdn/cs/sustainability/assets/blt752a44b5e2497010/course_journal_AFWW_digital.pdf)

Go to the next slide to see the correct answer.

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Regenerating nature is**...**

A Bringing back biodiversity to an area. ✓

B Mowing the lawn.

C Painting a beautiful landscape.

Go to the next slide to see the next question.

Quiz question 2

We need nature because**...**

A It smells good.

B The rain has to go somewhere.

C It creates a healthy environment for all living things.

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Quiz question 3

What can we do to help nature?

A Create wildflower areas in our gardens, schools or parks.

B Pick up litter.

C Provide shelter for insects and small animals.

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Over to Us
What can we do to help?

1. Build bug hotels and other shelters for your garden, school or local park.

2. Plant more seeds and create more habitat for pollinators.

3. Repurpose things from home to make bird feeders and bird nest boxes.

Before we go, here are a few tips on how we can all help the circular economy.

Do you do any of these already?

From the Planet Earth and everyone at the LEGO Group, thank you for building the change.

See you next time!

That's it for this session! Well done to all.

Next time, we will be looking at a Big Challenge which brings together everything we've learned during the sessions. Exciting!

See you there!

Don't forget to upload your kids' creations to our A Future Without Waste gallery on LEGO.com!

Note: you will need to be signed with your LEGOID username and password to upload.

Just scan the QR code above with a phone camera to get started or use this URL: **http://www.LEGO.com/sustainability/buildthechange/challenges/AFWW-2C-CHALLENGE/upload?CMP=EMC-LCE**