Catholic Earthcare
CARITAS AUSTRALIA

Learning for Action

Companion Tool:

Integrating **Laudato Si'** and **Catholic Social Teaching** with the **World's Largest Lesson** resources

Introducing the World's Largest Lesson

The **World's Largest Lesson** is a global education initiative led by Project Everyone (with partners including UNICEF and UNESCO) that aims to introduce children and young people to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and inspire them to take action for a more just and sustainable world. The primary audience is school-aged students—commonly around ages 8–14, but adaptable for wider age ranges—along with educators who are supported through free, open-access teaching materials. The platform offers a wide range of creative resources including lesson plans, animated videos, comics, storytelling activities, and project toolkits designed for flexible use across classrooms, clubs, and informal learning settings.

Climate change is a central thread across these resources, reflecting its importance within the SDGs (especially Goal 13: Climate Action). The World's Largest Lesson provides targeted climate-focused materials such as lesson plans, storytelling toolkits, and creative activities that help students understand environmental challenges while also developing agency and skills for action.

The World's Largest Lesson: Going deeper with *Laudato Si'*

The World's Largest Lesson helps students understand and act on global challenges.

Alongside these, *Laudato Si'* helps students to understand **why these challenges matter** and how **they are connected.** It also helps students to ground their responses in their own **formation, ethics and identity** as Catholics.

"Change is impossible without motivation and a process of education"

– Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* n15

Beginning with the World's Largest Lesson Resources	Extending with Laudato Si'
Identifies different global problems (through SDG focus)	Emphasise connections between crises – position these as part of one interconnected crisis
Develops sustainability skills to better manage our environment	Use integral ecology to consider how we are connected with, and part of, Earth (not just as managers, but as integrated participants)
Develops student actions to bring about change	Emphasise why action is needed – link this to Catholic Social Teaching: Care for our Common Home, moral responsibility and faith in action
Goal: to facilitate behaviour change	Focus on ecological conversion, moving from behaviour change to personal and spiritual transformation that sustains long term, holistic change

Tool 1:

Climate Action Storytelling Kit

Ages 8+

This tool invites students to tell stories about climate action as part of creating positive change.

In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis also calls us to an "ecological conversion" where we recognise the interconnectedness of all life and respond with care, justice, and hope.

As well as telling stories about our changing climate, we can also tell stories that show our interconnections with creation and create empathy and shared responsibility.

Go to: Climate-action-storytelling-toolkit

Tool 1:
Climate Action Storytelling Kit

Ages 8+

Ideas for Integrating Laudato Si':

- Encourage students **to create and share stories from the perspectives of others** (eg a coral reef, a farmer experiencing drought, a child from the future, an endangered species).
- Before students start developing stories about climate change, invite them to **map or explore who/what caused this problem**, who/what is most affected, and who can change it. Also invite students to ask if these situations are fair, and what justice might look like.
- As students are developing their stories, encourage them to consider **how different problems are connected**, and how solutions might also be connected.
- After sharing stories, invite students to reflect on **where they see God in these stories**, and how God might be inviting them to respond.

LAUDATO SI' Action Platform

GOALS



RESPOND TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH



RESPOND TO THE CRY OF THE POOR



ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS



ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES



ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION



ECOLOGICAL SPIRITUALITY



COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND EMPOWERMENT

Tool 1:
Climate Action Storytelling Kit

Building links to the Laudato Si' Goals

Ages 8+

Response to the cry of the earth: As students learn about the challenges facing our world, creative storytelling and advocacy can be positioned as a response to the earth's cry.

Response to the cry of the poor: As students learn and tell stories about the challenges facing creation, they can be prompted to also consider the stories and unique experiences of communities most impacted by climate change.

Ecological economics: In learning about (and telling stories about) climate change, students can be encouraged to consider the causes of these crises (e.g overconsumption of resources), and to shape stories that include this in their communication.

Adoption of sustainable lifestyles: Students can also be prompted to shape stories not just about wonder and awe for nature, but also about how this has inspired many others the create change.

Tool 1:
Climate Action Storytelling Kit

Building links to the Laudato Si' Goals

Ages 8+

Ecological education: For students, this storytelling kit and process strongly aligns with this goal, promoting ecological awareness, understanding and engagement with problem solving and change making.

Ecological spirituality: As students engage with experiences of wonder, awe and hope in nature, students can be invited to consider the love that God has for creation, and how loving our neighbour includes loving all of our world (the environment itself, as well as those affected most by climate change and injustice).

Community resilience and empowerment: Students are empowered to develop storytelling as an advocacy tool and equipped to understand ecological issues in order to participate in creating positive change.

See Judge Act

Bringing Catholic Social Teaching into the classroom

Another framework that can be used to bring Catholic Social Teaching into classroom engagement is using the **See, Judge, Act** model.

When shaping and sharing stories about climate, students can be prompted to consider causes, consequences and the presence/absence of Gospel values. You may want use this process to draw links and build connections to your school's charism too.

See	Judge	Act
Describe the problem	Reflect on the situation in light of CST	Plan a realistic and effective strategy
• What is the lived experience of this issue? • What is happening to people? • Are we listening to the people most directly affected? • What are the causes? • What are the consequences? • How are these linked? • Who are the decision-makers?	• Are Gospel values being upheld or denied? • How do the Scriptures speak to this issue? • What does the Church have to say about it?	Does your plan include: • Faith formation • Service to the most in need • Raising awareness • Advocating for change • Collaboration and coordination(Don't reinvent the wheel. Support existing organisations/ networks) • Adequate resourcing

Other Resources: World's Largest Lesson

There are a range of tools, resources, lesson plans and activities available from the World's Largest Lesson that can help students develop a foundation for understanding and responding to global issues.

Under the 'resources' section (see next page), you can search a range of resources against different SDGs – many of which relate to climate and environmental stewardship. You can also adapt these to your own unique context.

These can also be accompanied by Laudato Si's focus on **interconnection, faith-based stewardship** and **personal transformation for sustained action.**

Go to: worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org

WORLD'S LARGEST LESSON

In partnership with unicef for every child | unesco

ABOUT US | RESOURCES | COLLECTIONS | IMPACT | PARTNERS | LANGUAGE



FILTER

SEARCH...

SDG

RESOURCE TYPE

AGE GROUP

LANGUAGE

SKILLS

Clear



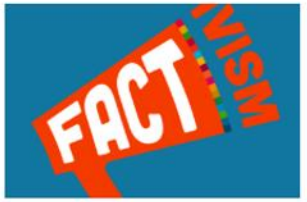
2025 Global Goals Week Toolkit

This toolkit helps young people understand the systems that move our world and prepares them with the skills they'll need for a sustainable future.



A Call to Climate Learning

A video to inspire everyone to learn about climate change



Be A Fact-ivist!

Lesson plan for students to use the power of data and share the change they'd like to see







Further Resources:
Caritas + Catholic Earthcare

Is your school a Catholic Earthcare school?

If not, please register! It's free and you'll receive support and resources! www.caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare

Further resources to help you integrate *Laudato Si'* and Catholic Social Teaching into your classroom:

Video: Care for our Common Home (CST): https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/school-resources/video-care-for-our-common-home-cst/

Caring for Creation – Primary (See, Judge, Act): https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/school-resources/caring-for-creation-primary/

Caring for Creation – Secondary (See, Judge, Act): https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/school-resources/caring-for-creation-secondary/

The Laudato Si' Goals (Primary): https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/school-resources/the-laudato-si-goals-primary/

The Laudato Si' Goals (Secondary): https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/school-resources/laudato-si-goals-secondary/

Laudato Si' Action Goals Prayers: https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/school-resources/laudato-si-action-goals-prayer/

Ecological Justice Calendar (2026): https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/school-resources/ecological-justice-calendar-by-catholic-earthcare-australia/

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