

Chain Reactions

Aim

to highlight the causes and effects of climate change

Age

12 years and older

Time

30 minutes

Materials

set of cards, large space

Note to Leader

If you have a large group make extra copies of the cards. If you work with a smaller group, use one or two of the chains.

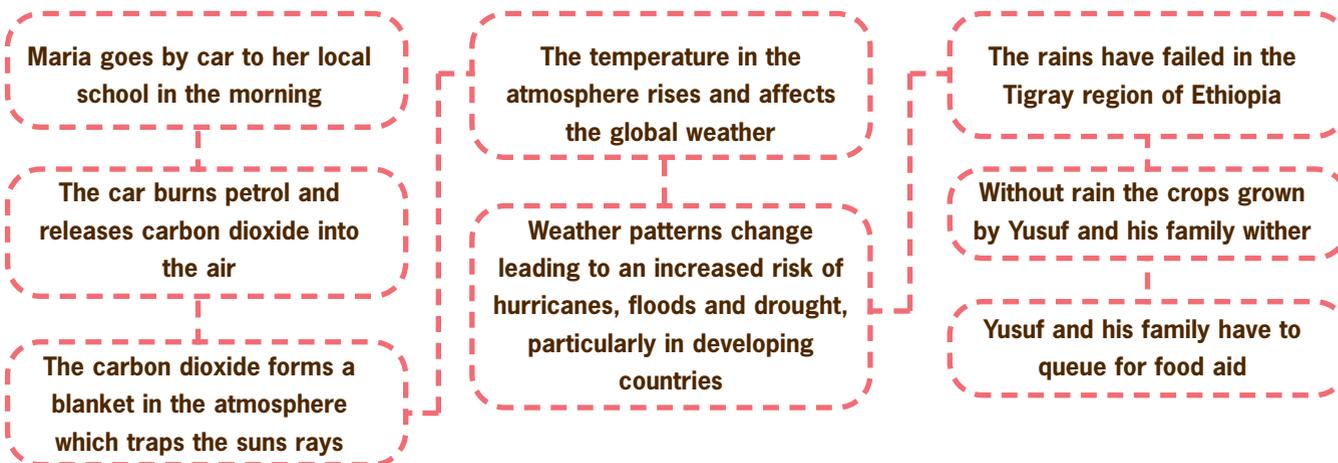
Break into groups of eight. In each group, give each participant a card at random from one of the chains. Explain that they have to form a chain so that each card follows from the last one. When the chain is completed, it should link their lives to the lives of young people in other parts of the world. The first group to complete their chain is the winner. When the chains have been completed, check to see if they are in the correct order and rearrange if necessary.

In the large group, explain that the chain describes some causes and effects of climate change. Ask if it was easy or difficult to get the correct order. Why was that? Did

anything about the game surprise them? What? Explain that the actions described in the chains only have a significant impact on climate change where millions of people, particularly in rich countries, also do them. If the group wanted to take action to make a positive contribution to tackling poverty, which end of the chain would they begin at? What actions could they take?

Alternatively, form small groups and make a full set of all the cards for each group but shuffle them up. Have a competition to see which group can put the cards in the correct order first.

Chain One



Chain Reaction

Continued

Take Action!

Join the climate change campaign being organised by Friends of the Earth Ireland. The climate campaign website is www.climatepledge.ie and asks young people to do their fair share to prevent dangerous climate change.



Chain Two

Kevin leaves the immersion on when he goes out

The power plant burns more coal to produce the extra electricity, releasing more carbon dioxide into the air

The carbon dioxide forms a blanket in the atmosphere which traps the sun's rays

The temperature in the atmosphere rises and affects the global weather

The rainfall is heavier and lasts longer over Bangladesh, leading to increased flooding

The rising water forces Azra to seek refuge on the roof of her house

The water becomes badly polluted

Azra feels unwell because she has to drink the water and she cannot get to medicine or food

Chain Three

Carol thinks reusing stuff and recycling is for idiots

She gets loads of plastic bags when she goes shopping and buys products with lots of packaging

The manufacture of plastic for bags and packaging releases carbon dioxide into the air

The carbon dioxide forms a blanket in the atmosphere which traps the sun's rays

The planet heats up and ocean temperatures rise which increases the risk of hurricanes

In Florida, Emilio and his family have heard on the radio that another hurricane is on the way

They gather up some possessions and flee inland before the hurricane destroys their home

Emilio knows there will be more hurricanes in the future but his family can't afford to live anywhere else