

Session 1: Poetry and Climate Resilience

- Grange Pavilion, Cardiff
- 13:00-14:15 (75 minutes)
- 26 January 2024
- Approx. 15 Year 10 students (plus hopefully some parents)
- Facilitators: Russell + support from youth mentors

Session Goal:

To explore the concept of community climate resilience through poetry, fostering an emotional and imaginative connection to the challenges and solutions of climate change.

Session Outline:

1. Welcome and Context (15 mins)

- **Introduction to All sessions:**
 - Briefly explain the purpose NICW project about community climate adaptation and futures
 - Explain today's session's focus on resilience and how poetry can help us connect to climate change emotionally and creatively.
 - Acknowledge that they may not be experts at poetry but that we will guide them through
 - Make it clear there will be ample time for revision and this will only last an hour
 - Ask if any of the learners have any poetry related homework/coursework
- **Icebreaker:**
 - Give everyone a post it and ask them to individually write one word they associate with resilience. Everyone put their words on a board.

- Comment (briefly on the mix)

- **Instructions:**

- Share one short, evocative poem about community climate resilience.
- Then explain to participants the next writing activity

2. Writing Resilience: Group Activity (10 mins)

- **Prompt: “Where We’ve Been”** (10 mins):

- Invite participants to write a short poem (4-6 lines) about a memory of a local place they love, especially one affected by environmental changes.
- Encourage sensory details: What did it feel, smell, or sound like?
- If they are struggling, point to some poems for inspiration on the table - you can also make your poem by cutting up lines from poems you like and adding them together, or adding them to your own.

3. Futures and climate resilience (20 mins):

- **Explanation of futures and trend sharing:** (3 mins) - 1 min per slide

- **The future isn’t fixed;** it’s shaped by choices we make today.
- **The futures are plural**
- **Introduce the 3Ps Framework:** Possible, Probable, and Preferred Futures.
 - Probable: What is likely to happen if current trends continue?
 - Possible: What could happen?
 - Preferred: What future would we like to create?

- Share a few Key Trends of Community Climate Resilience (4 mins) <1 min per slide

- Use powerpoint to share a domain map of some the different areas of infrastructure resilience.
- Then v. briefly show a few trends with visuals:
 1. **Urban Greening:** Cities transforming into forests and wetlands to manage heat and flooding.
 2. **Circular Economies:** Communities reusing resources to reduce waste and build self-sufficiency.

3. **Energy Transition:** Widespread use of renewable energy with decentralized, community-owned grids.
4. **Localized Food Systems:** Communities growing diverse, resilient crops adapted to climate shifts.

- **Prompt : “Where We’re Going”** (15 mins):

- Ask participants to imagine their loved place transformed into a resilient version of itself in the future. What do they see? Some additional prompts:
 - *What does daily life look like in this place?*
 - *How might relationships between humans and nature evolve?*
 - *What innovations or traditions have been used to adapt to climate change?*
- Write another short poem that envisions hope, renewal, or adaptation in that place.
- It doesn’t have to use the future ideas - they are just through starters to think about some of the ways that places change.....

4. Sharing and Reflection (25 mins)

- Invite participants to share their poems (optional - 5-10 mins).
- Facilitate a discussion:
 - What does resilience mean to you after writing and listening to these poems?
 - What are some common themes that came through in people’s poems?
 - NEED TO REVIEW FOR MORE SPECIFIC EVALUATION QUESTIONS

5. Closing (2 mins)

- Reflect on the session and introduce the two upcoming sessions, teasing their focus (e.g., role play activity and walk...).
- Explain incentives and thank for their time
- Explain the aims of the next session (role play)

Future Ideas:

- If there is energy in the group we would encourage and support them to organize a climate-focused poetry night to showcase the work.
- Options for sharing: Upload to SoundCloud or a Radio Platform.

Capturing impact:

- Transcript of key insights from final reflective discussion
- Poems and commentary around them - to be shared in youth pavilion wall.