ACTIVITY 6: CLIMATE CHANGE INFOGRAPHIC

The purpose of this activity is for students to summarize and communicate the most important details about the science of climate change using data, text, and other visuals.

For this activity, students will need a basic understanding of what an infographic is and how to use an infographic-creation tool such as Canva, Google Slides, or PowerPoint. Students do not have to create something from scratch (e.g., they can find and repurpose a template), but they can also choose to do something original as well.

First, inform students that they will be working with a group to create an infographic about climate change that will inform others about the basics of it, how it works, the data available to support it, and what can be done about it. Elicit suggestions from the whole group about what makes for a good infographic. Optionally, you can show some sample infographics (not about climate change) to help students select features that they think make for a good infographic. Generate a list of what they mention and then, through discussion, help them arrive at a consensus about what the key features are. That will serve as the success criteria for their projects to focus their thinking and efforts.

Next, through discussion, create a similar outline of what sorts of information about climate change need to be part of their infographics. The list may include things like:

- What is climate change? How do climate/weather compare?
- The impact human activity has on climate change
- The mechanism by which climate change happens
- The effects of climate change
- Data about climate change
- Actions we can take to address climate change

Then, give students work time in class over one or more days to work on their infographics with their groups. Before using the digital tools, students should sketch out their plan for their infographic and get approval by their teacher (or peer feedback) to inform what they do. After receiving feedback, they can begin iterating on their plans using digital tools.

Last, give students the opportunity to share their infographics with others to get feedback and discuss their ideas. This can be accomplished in one of several ways:

- 1. Groups can present to each other
- 2. Groups can each present to the entire class
- 3. Groups can post their infographics in an online gallery to get feedback from their peers or an outside community (e.g., parents, other classes/teachers/peers outside their classroom)

Remember to make sure that any feedback provided to the groups on their infographics is in accordance with the success criteria defined together with them earlier in the activity. Note: you may wish to create a rubric for evaluators to give feedback on the infographics based on the criteria.

