



## Parent and Carer Guide

# Posters for the Planet

### What is 'Posters for the Planet'?

The Posters for the Planet initiative is a simple way of getting children and young people across the UK to get involved in climate action. By sending persuasive posters to their local MP, they can prove that people in their constituency care about climate and nature and want bold action. It's a great way to introduce pupils to politics and the power of political action.

### Why should schools get involved?

In July, Greenpeace organisers are taking part in the mass lobby (as part of the Climate Coalition) to meet their MPs one year after the election to hold MPs to account and demand bold action.

Young people are great campaigners, and we know from the Big Plastic Count that they can have a big influence over MPs. Greenpeace and Everyday Plastic set up The Big Plastic Count. Schools, households, community groups and businesses up and down the country counted their plastic waste for a whole week. Together, we uncovered that UK households are throwing away 1.7 billion pieces of plastic – every week!

#### Emma Hardy (Defra Minister) on the Big Plastic Count:

*"This week, I had the most effective lobbying I have ever had; I was lobbied by 12 primary school children who came with a message in a bottle—they literally brought a bottle with a message and a petition from Greenpeace calling on me to do everything I can to secure plastic reduction. They too had taken part in the Great Plastic Count, and even the youngest, who was only seven years old, told me about all the plastic that they had."*

### How to get your child or young person involved

Everything you need to get your child or young person involved is provided for you.

1. Discuss the climate crisis with your child or young person. You might like to refer to the **Generation Next: Parents and Carers Guide** which offers support on conversations around climate change and the eco-emotions people feel.
2. Use the **UK Parliament website** to find out who your local MP is and a bit more about them. On this site, you will also find their contact details and the address that you should send the posters to.
3. Support your young person, if necessary, to create their eye-catching persuasive poster.
4. Scan, copy or photograph your young person's poster before sending it to your local MP so that you can share the poster with us at Greenpeace. We'll be featuring some of the best posters on our website! Send them to **getactive.uk@greenpeace.org**.
5. Post a picture of your posters on social media with the hashtag #PostersPlanet and tag Greenpeace and your MP.
6. Send your young person's poster to your local MP. If you wish to, you can use the wording below to write a covering letter to accompany the poster.

## Example

# Covering letter to your local MP

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Dear *[insert name of your local MP]*,

I have recently been learning about climate change and its impacts on nature and people. I am writing to you because I care about climate and nature and I'm calling on you to take action.

I have created this poster to convey my concerns and hopes for the future of Earth. I understand that as our local MP, it is your role to represent the views of everyone in your local area, and I hope that you will be able to use my poster to show that there is huge support from across your constituency for climate action.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this letter and look at my poster.

Together, we can make a difference and act now to protect the planet that my generation will inherit.

Yours faithfully,

*[insert young person's name]*