



reduce, reuse, recycle, REVOLUTIONIZE

Study Guide

Hello Students! We are so happy THE FOURTH R is coming to your school! We cannot wait to celebrate the Earth together with you and unite in our fight for climate justice! We all know the situation: the



planet and the animals and people in it are changing. CO2 levels are rising, glaciers are melting and weather patterns are alternating. **But** there is a lot of hope and it comes from US! What we have to do now, is learn about the ways in which we can slow global warming so we can actually make it happen. This means rethinking everything from how we get around to where our food comes from, and especially how much waste we create. So let's rise to the challenge together and fight for our planet so we can continue to enjoy all the life it sustains.

When we come to your school, we want to make sure you understand exactly what you are watching which is why we put together this amazing study sheet. To begin, The Fourth R is a theatrical dance show with video projections about the ways in which human activity is affecting our environment. It's an artistic presentation that is done without words and instead uses energetic music and dance to tell the story. Music and movement are extremely powerful tools that allow us to tell our story through vibe and energy while also making it accessible to non-English speakers.



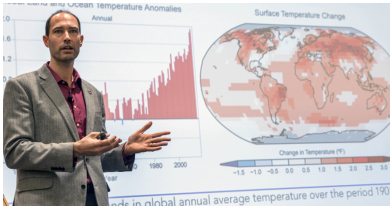
The Fourth R begins with three characters on stage in skin-tone clothing. They represent the first humans to ever live on Earth. Throughout this first scene we see these early humans progress through time and civilization, ultimately becoming one of three different types of people who play a unique role in the climate crisis today. Through this first scene we are introduced to our show's characters. Our first character represents the CEOs of the companies who make the things we buy but who have also polluted the most. The second character represents the average person who may not think about the planet but has the power to make good environmental choices. The third character represents people who live in areas of the world that experience climatic events like floods, fires, droughts (no water) and famines (no food).


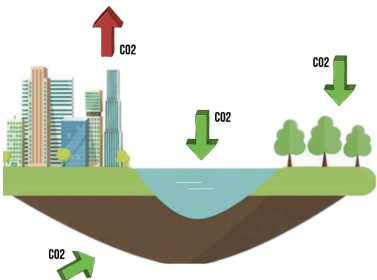




Once the show is finished, we will engage in a group discussion. To prepare yourself for this, we would like you to start thinking about the following:

- How can your school become more environmentally friendly?
- Why is this so important?
- What issues do you really care about?
- What is carbon drawdown and renewable energy?

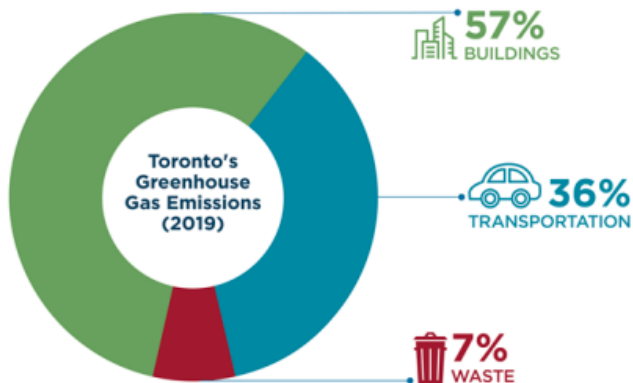
Important terms and definitions for you to understand before seeing **THE FOURTH R.**

Term	Definition	Application in our daily lives
<p>Carbon Dioxide</p> 	<p>A natural gas that every living thing on earth releases. Things like fossil fuels release carbon into the atmosphere as well.</p>	<p>Carbon Dioxide gets trapped in the atmosphere causing the planet to warm. Because of this, it's important to use power and gas wisely.</p>
<p>Climate Change</p> 	<p>The process of a build up of CO2 gas in the atmosphere, causing the planet to warm. This changes how we will be able to live our lives.</p>	<p>As the planet warms, the weather becomes unpredictable and harder to manage. Things like tsunamis, floods, hurricanes and fires can interrupt our lives.</p>
<p>Climate Crisis</p> 	<p>The announcements and warnings made by scientists about the threats of a changing climate.</p>	<p>It's a crisis because many different types of people are affected by the issue so they all want different solutions. For example, some corporations who rely on taking things from the earth like oil have a hard time facing it. The other people who have lived through</p>

		hurricanes and floods are fighting for change.
<p>Activism</p> 	<p>The actions people and groups take to demand political and social change.</p>	<p>Activism can be done by yourself or with big groups. Big groups will protest, shout and carry signs through organized demonstrations to demand for change. Individuals can email leaders, make phone calls and not buy from harmful businesses.</p>
<p>Carbon Drawdown</p> 	<p>The process of removing carbon out of the atmosphere. Many natural things can absorb carbon: oceans, whales, soil, trees, coral reefs etc. These are known as carbon sinks.</p>	<p>Demanding leaders to stop cutting down the forests and overfishing. Keeping natural green spaces and oceans healthy.</p>
<p>Climate Racism</p> 	<p>Where you live determines your quality of life. The reality is that many poorer places around the world suffer from poor quality of soil for growing food, natural disasters (flooding, fires) and companies not paying their workers. These countries and the people affected are almost always non-white, which is why it's considered a form of racism.</p>	<p>We need to care about people who live in places that go through environmental disasters. We must understand that not everyone has equal opportunities and can get food, shelter and jobs based on where they live. It's important that we help those in need.</p>
<p>Renewable Energy</p> 	<p>We can harness nature to generate power. Some examples are solar energy from the sun, geothermal energy from heat inside the earth, wind energy from turbines, biomass from plants, hydropower from flowing water.</p>	<p>Most of our buildings and cars are powered through fossil fuels (oil and gas) which are harmful to the environment. Using renewable energy is a great solution and big oil companies need to switch over.</p>
<p>Capitalism</p>	<p>The economic system that</p>	<p>Making money is a good thing,</p>

	<p>allows businesses and individuals to make as much money as they desire.</p>	<p>but historically capitalism doesn't care about the environment. We need to fight for a sustainable system that works with nature instead of against it. Under capitalism, things are not given enough time to grow and a lot of waste is made. We need businesses to know that it takes time and care to farm animals and plants.</p>
<p>Fossil Fuels</p> 	<p>Coal and gas that was formed in a geological time from past organisms. We use these substances to power our houses, cars, buildings, machinery.</p>	<p>Fossil Fuels have done a great job of getting us this far in building our communities. But now we need to recognize that they're too harmful to the environment because they emit gasses that trap in our atmosphere. World Leaders must stop allowing new fossil fuel projects to be built and instead move on to paying for renewable energy.</p>
<p>Greenwashing</p> 	<p>The act of lying to the public through advertising to make a product or business look environmentally friendly.</p>	<p>Companies like Royal Bank of Canada, Shell and Amazon want to be seen as helpful when talking about climate change. They plan green activities and clean ups and show how they are green. But the truth is, they often lie to us and still use a lot of fossil fuels. We need to hold companies and CEOs responsible for the environmental damage they have committed.</p>

Figure 1. Toronto's GHG emissions (2019).



We appreciate you taking the time to understand our presentation before we visit your school. By preparing yourselves with this study sheet you are bound to fully understand our message and can better appreciate the performance. Remember, we are in this together! Stronger united! See you soon!

The information from this study sheet was informed by TransformTO Net Zero Strategy: A Climate Action Pathway to 2030 and Beyond. <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2021/ie/bgrd/backgroundfile-173758.pdf>