

Title of Session: Environment: climate change - what can YOU do about it?

Moderator: Maggi Doty

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Room: Environment Group

Maggi: welcome to the green room and an opportunity to learn more about climate change

Maggi: Hi Marion

MarionM: Hello.

MeghanML joined the room.

Maggi: Hi Meghan

MeghanML: Hi! how are y'all?

Maggi: welcome to the green room and an opportunity to learn more about climate change

MeghanML: thanks!

MarionM: Fine, thanks

Maggi: Please feel free to ask any questions that come to mind

MarionM: ok

Maggi: What you would like to know about

MarionM: I would like to know more about incorporating the issue of global warming into the classroom.

Maggi: or just look around first

Maggi: some links and files for that

MarionM: The area I live in is rural Texas and people here don't seem to get the importance of the issue.

MeghanML: yes. what kind of things can you do to help your students understand this importance

MarionM: I've met a lot of opposition from adults I speak too about our environment in general.

Maggi: yes

MarionM: I want to be able to teach students about the issue in an effective way so they may

go to their families and teach them the importance.

Maggi: just a sec

Maggi: keep talking

MeghanML: what grade do you teach Marion?

MarionM: I'm not teaching yet. I will graduate in May and am currently looking for a position in the elementary grades.

Maggi: there are some links for teachers on the top screen

MeghanML: Me too.

MarionM: Where are you located?

MeghanML: Houston

MeghanML: How about you?

MarionM: I attend University of Houston, I am about an hour and 15 minutes south of Houston though.

MeghanML: I see. :)

CeliaCh joined the room.

Maggi: Hi Celia

Maggi: welcome to the green room and an opportunity to learn more about climate change

CeliaCh: Hello~

Maggi: first introductions

CeliaCh: Thanks. It's my first time to join this chat!

MarionM: Hi Celia

MeghanML: where are you from Celia?

CeliaCh: I am an English major in Taiwan.

MarionM: Very cool.

MeghanML: COOL.

Maggi: fantastic

CeliaCh: Ha~

Maggi: I teach Business English freelance in Germany

CeliaCh: Wow, Germany is a cool language and it's hard to learn.

MeghanML: wow. what part? I used to live there for a little while when I was younger.

MarionM: Very cool.

MarionM: So, it's 5 o'clock there?

CeliaCh: no, it's 11PM here.

MeghanML: wow.

MarionM: Oh, right, I mean in Germany.

Maggi: It is 5 p.m. here

Maggi: Yes in Germany it is

MarionM: ok

Maggi: Tomorrow we are supposed to be able to get up to almost 80°F

Maggi: This was the warmest winter on record and they have records that go back almost 600 years

CeliaCh: 80F= ? C

CeliaCh: sorry for my bad mathematics > <"

Maggi: Sorry that is 26C

MarionM: Wow! 600 years! Our weather changes drastically from day to day around this time of year.

CeliaCh: Wow, it's so hot.

MeghanML: wow

DavidWe joined the room.

DavidWe waves

Maggi: Has it always been that way?

DavidWe . o O (sorry I'm late)

Maggi: Did you as teachers see where you can get a free copy of the film An Inconvenient Truth?

Maggi: Under featured items there are also some links and files for teachers to introduce their students to climate change

Maggi: If you have older students there is a game out now

MeghanML: what kind of game?

Maggi: jeepers a man comes into the room and everybody is suddenly quiet

DavidWe laughs

DavidWe . o O (I'm good, but I'm not THAT good)

MarionM: I am checking out the site for the free DVD.

Maggi: Has to do with putting wedges together – the Wedge Game

Maggi: Also one of the files under featured items

Maggi: No actually it is a link

Maggi: Well David you and I can talk while they're looking

DavidWe: It's warming up here in New York, **Maggi**

DavidWe . o O (46F)

Maggi: That's very nice to hear David

DavidWe: I hear it's warm in Germany, today, **Maggi**?

Maggi: Celia, do you have any questions?

MeghanML: these earth shots are amazing

DavidWe smiles

Maggi: Yes I love Earth shots

MeghanML: me too!

Maggi: Actually we have a teacher in Taiwan who's doing the whole spring course this semester on climate change

Maggi: She got the idea after seeing this room

MeghanML: wow

Maggi: By the way any photos or information is yours for the taking

DavidWe : o O (free photos!)

Maggi: Just cut and paste anything you want

MeghanML: thanks!

MarionM: Oh, great. I love incorporating great pictures into lessons.

Maggi: I think pictures really say a lot more than you ever could from just reading something

MeghanML: yeah. It's amazing how beautiful these places are. i wish i could go see them in person

Maggi: plus they are pretty effective

MeghanML: or take a class there...

MeghanML: maybe then students would want to care more about the environment

Maggi: I have three files in the folder called "Want to lose these?"

Maggi: They are photos of animals, culture and landscapes

MeghanML: uh huh

Maggi: I keep adding to it so you should always check ... some are very interesting by the way

MeghanML: ok!

Maggi: Like the new polar bear in the Berlin Zoo

Maggi: He is just so adorable

Maggi: keeps getting bigger though

Maggi: Some animal activists thought he should be put to sleep because his mother abandoned him after he was born

Maggi: But his keeper has been with him 24 hours a day taking care of him

MeghanML: that's amazing

MeghanML: how old is it? do you know?

MarionM: Knut is soo cute.

DavidWe: That's what Justine says

Maggi: They could never put him to sleep now because he is making a pile of money for the zoo

DavidWe . o O (my niece)

MarionM: His keeper must be very dedicated.

MeghanML: yeah must be

Maggi: He's about 3 months now

CeliaCh: Knut is the bear?

DavidWe . o O (polar bear)

CeliaCh: I see!

MeghanML: This past summer. I spent a week in the black hills...saw some of the most breath taking views

Maggi: He is devoted but he sometimes says he gets on his nerves so that he has the feeling he could almost throw him against the wall

Maggi: It's just the same feeling that a parent has for their children at times

MeghanML: I'm sure

Maggi: I would never do it but you have that feeling

MeghanML: haha...imagine him trying to thro that bear against the wall...lol

Maggi: Maybe a mother polar bear could because they're a little bigger

MeghanML: lol

MarionM: Sometimes, a job can take almost all you have, but dedication pays off. I am thankful for the individuals around the world who work hard to make a difference.

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe . o O (like doctors)

MeghanML: or teachers

MarionM: Doctors, teachers, there are so many opportunities for people to make positive changes for others.

Maggi: You are so right Marion

MeghanML: very true

CeliaCh: Actually everyone can at least do a little things to protect our globe.

Maggi: Actually the “First thing you should do” folder there are three files in there

MarionM: Another one of the goals I have for my future classroom is to help students see the impact they have on society as individuals.

Maggi: Plus there is a link of 11 things that you can do

Maggi: That's a good start

Maggi: They are going to have to learn how to change their lifestyle and conserve

MarionM: Is that in the things you can do file?

MeghanML: I just wish you could educate more people all over the world, like I'm a third world country

Maggi: Conserve what we have so that it lasts longer

MeghanML: or at least do more to help

MarionM: You can. There are ways to become connected to people in third world countries. I don't know what they are, but it is possible.

Maggi: That's part of it

MeghanML: yeah

CeliaCh: I agree.

MeghanML: I couldn't imagine what this world would be like once we start to really run out of resources

Maggi: The folder “First thing to read” has a list of the way you need to change your lifestyle

Maggi: It's going to get to be a big mess

Maggi: Of mixed up everything

MeghanML: yeap

Maggi: And it's going to cost more to try to fix it then when it's too late than it would be to try to do it now

MarionM: For me, I used to live in Saudi Arabia and have connections all over the world. If you teach in a very culturally diverse school, then it is likely the students will help to educate their parents. Their parents may have family in their native country.

Maggi: This is what the teacher in Taiwan is trying to do

MeghanML: that's true!

Maggi: Getting her students to involve their parents and older people in general

MarionM: That's so great.

Maggi: What's amazing is how many people still don't believe

MarionM: I agree. It makes me angry sometimes because people seem to laugh at the idea.

Maggi: Or think that technology will save the day

MarionM: right.

MeghanML: yeah

Maggi: While the moment to do something about it is to change the way we're living right now

ValareeI joined the room.

MarionM: I agree. Some things can be hard to change and live without.

Maggi: And I get very irritated with that

MarionM: It's ok.

CeliaCh: I think people nowadays have a better awareness of environmental protection comparing with the past few decades.

ValareeI: ok if I stay?

Maggi: Hi Valaree

MeghanML: Hello Valaree!

Maggi: Welcome to the green room and of course you're welcome to stay

ValareeI: Hello...n thx

Maggi: Has anyone seen a book a Frenchman wrote on the rich are killing our planet?

ValareeI: the images & captions on this page are...disturbing

Maggi: They should be

Maggi: That is sort of the idea

ValareeI: yes of course

MeghanML: wow

ValareeI: what about the French book?

MarionM: I have not heard about this book.

Maggi: There is (under links- featured items) a link to his website

MarionM: I see

Maggi: And at the bottom of his website there is an interview with Al Gore in English that is superb

Maggi: it's interesting because the rich have so much money and they're buying everything and trying to persuade us to buy stuff and all of this consuming is ruining the planet

MeghanML: true

CeliaCh: indeed

Maggi: This shop until you drop has got to stop

MarionM: I get pretty annoyed with the big trucks and Hummers people buy just because they can.

ValareeI: I have been very interested in the decline of the ozone in the last 18 months becuz I started having melanoma problems

ValareeI: it makes me think.....

Maggi: More people are going to have problems as the years go by

MarionM: absolutely

ValareeI: that when the affluent have more \$, they go to exotic (sunny) places more often....

MeghanML: it's just going to get worse and worse

Maggi: More people already do have problems

ValareeI: and it ends up being a curse!

MeghanML: very true

Maggi: And I read some of the billionaires are having some really big yachts being built

ValareeI: On Monday eve, may I have my Chapman University students visit your office Maggie?

MarionM: crazy yachts! VERY UNNECESSARY!

Maggi: You can come anytime the door is always open

ValareeI: They are K-12 credential candidates

ValareeI: Thanks!

Maggi: That is why the name of the book - rich people are killing the planet

ValareeI: I just reread your WELCOME by Kurt V ---a very good one!

Maggi: I thought it was very appropriate

MeghanML: its just amazing how much people don't care

ValareeI: especially this week now that he has passed on

Maggi: Well we have to start a grassroots movement to build up

Maggi: That it is one of the reasons why I started this room

Maggi: I'm pretty passionate about it

MeghanML: that's good

ValareeI: With my 4th graders, this past month we have read selections about grizzly bears, harp seals, elephants.....all geared at 10 years olds to help them START thinking about the environment & endangered species

MarionM: It's the passionate that follow through.

Maggi: That's good to start with smaller children so they become aware earlier

MeghanML: do u share a lot of photos with them Valaree?

MarionM: The school I am student teaching at doesn't recycle. Does yours?

Maggi: After all they can end up with a mess as an adult

Maggi: There is no idea, get your kids to start a recycling program

ValareeI: photos.....like of the animals? Yes

Maggi: An idea, a very good idea

ValareeI: I THOUGHT my school recycles....but just this year I found out....

ValareeI: that everything we separate into bins they just throw all together any way!

Maggi: Get your class to start doing it and by the time you know it the rest of the school will be doing it....jeepers Valaree, how wasteful

MeghanML: I think that if u let your children start to recycle in the classroom...almost as an assignment to get recycling going at your school the students would really take to it...feeling like they are in charge and doing something important

ValareeI: Isn't that ludicrous! And such a fake!

ValareeI: Yes, I agree

Maggi: Talk to your local papers

ValareeI: Empower them early with responsibility & awareness!

MarionM: I agree about starting in the classroom.

Maggi: And get your Mayor involved

Maggi: Things start best at the local level

MarionM: Talking to the papers is a good idea. My mom-in-law is a manager there.

MeghanML: exactly

ValareeI: There is a great kid story "Just A Dream" by Chris Van Allsburg (also wrote "Polar Express") that tells about the future w/o recycling

Maggi: Write a letter to the editor

MarionM: I am also going to try to start a recycling program at my church. That way, the girls I teach there can take the idea home to their parents.

CeliaCh: good idea

Maggi: yes

MarionM: Thanks for the book title. I'll check it out.

ValareeI: Is that San Jose library one of its kind? How many more bldgs are "green" friendly?

Maggi: I think they are becoming more and more

Maggi: Certainly here in Europe the trend is that way

ValareeI: San Jose is not that upscale or state of the art ---so I am kind of shocked ---it is a cool idea

MarionM: I think it's great. Now I'm ready for every city to jump on board.

ValareeI: How often does this group meet regularly? It is 8:50 a.m. in Southern Calif

Maggi: You also need to change your public transportation

ValareeI: CARS are the worst! My family alone has 5 but that is our only way to work, (I have 3 adult daughters)

Maggi: And get your railroads up to date

MarionM: Where I live, there is no public transportation. People think the bigger their truck is, the bigger they are.

ValareeI: Ya that is the macho guy thing in Texas!

ValareeI:and CA!

MeghanML: yeah I agree when u see these big trucks with all this horrible smoke coming out...it makes me sick

MarionM: Me too.

Maggi: Well, when they run out of oil they won't feel very macho

ValareeI: ...and (fill-in-the blank) place

MeghanML: you just know by lookin at it. It's doing harm

ValareeI: I live by the ocean....and even it is not so pretty anymore

Maggi: Or get lung cancer because of the pollution

Maggi: The oceans are dying

ValareeI: that happens far too often to NON smokers

ValareeI: (lung cancer)

MeghanML: yeah...the beach nearest me is in Galveston...and that beach is not taken care of or pretty at all

Maggi: Too close to the oil refineries

ValareeI: that polar bear isolated on the little slab of ice really bothers me!

Maggi: Too much of it's going into the water...it should Valaree, more are drowning because of it

MarionM: You think Galveston is bad, try Sargeant Texas. I am outraged by the beach there.

MarionM: My biggest passion are the oceans and the creatures that live in it.

MeghanML: you see way too many people throw things out of their cars also...I just wanna speed up and yell at them...like it would matter but it makes me angry

Maggi: Have you seen a shot from space of the size of the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico?

ValareeI: dead zone?

Maggi: It's an area of the ocean where it's completely dead

MarionM: I have not. I will check it out.

ValareeI: SERIOUSLY>

Maggi: The water is almost yellow even

ValareeI: can it been seen from Google Earth?

MeghanML: wow

Maggi: very serious

Maggi: It's called the dead zone

Maggi: And it grows bigger every year

MeghanML: goodness

Maggi: Yes you can see it from Google Earth

MarionM: I went to the Red Sea in 9th grade and went to a beach that had been thriving with coral reefs twenty years earlier. It was dead though because they had built a plant on the coast. The smoke from the plant killed everything, That was when the passion began.

MarionM: I love google earth

Maggi: Just south of Louisiana and a little bit off the coast of Texas

ValareeI: Oh ladies, I must be off....Thank you so much for letting me join in.....please feel free to visit my office anytime too!

MarionM: ok, thanks. have a good one!

MeghanML: bye!

ValareeI: Lots of stuff for new teachers, but who knows....

Maggi: Thank you for coming!

ValareeI: maybe you will find something useful just as I did this morning! Ciao!

CeliaCh: bye@

Maggi: Enjoy your day!

Maggi: Or sleep well

ValareeI: bye bye!!!

ValareeI left the room (signed off).

MeghanML: I have to go too...it was great talking with y'all.

Maggi: Goodbye and come again!

MeghanML: bye!!

MarionM: Bye Meghan

MeghanML left the room (signed off).

CeliaCh: Thanks for all of your valuable opinions.

MarionM: I'll go too. Thanks **Maggi**. Bye.

Maggi: You're welcome!

MarionM left the room (signed off).

CeliaCh: Though I seldom type words, I do keep watching your opinions. And this is my first time to chat in a Tapped In group.

Maggi: You did a very good job

CeliaCh: Thank you very much:)

Maggi: Sometimes the conversation can move pretty fast

Maggi: You can make the window larger by clicking in the top right where it says actions

Maggi: And then clicking detach

CeliaCh: Yes, when I want to reply somebody's conversation, it just goes by another topic.

Maggi: Then you get a bigger screen that you can move around can put it anywhere you want

CeliaCh: Ha, thank you! You are very kind.

Maggi: I used to do tips and tricks tours

CeliaCh: I will have a better understanding as to how to chat next time!

CeliaCh: Thanks for your help.

CeliaCh: Have a good day!

Maggi: You are up a little bit late

Maggi: Yes the sun is shining

CeliaCh: Many thanks, anyway.

CeliaCh: bye bye~

Maggi: You're very welcome Celia and bye