



SPRING 2025



Welcome to the Spring 2025 newsletter from Cumbria Development Education Centre (CDEC). Inside you'll find updates from our PLACE and Blue Influencer projects and the latest in our series of '40 Activities'.

There's also information about some upcoming dates for your diary and a first look at CDEC training courses for the autumn term.

Is your school a CDEC member school? Whether you need to renew your subscription or if you've never been a member before, all the information you need is on page 6.

As ever, if you have any questions about what we do or how you can get involved, we'd love to hear from you - please send an email to dan@cdec.org.uk

With best wishes from the CDEC team - **Laura, Geoff, Alison, Mina and Dan**



CUMBRIA DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION CENTRE

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CDEC is registered as charity number 1156649

CDEC is a member of The Global Learning Network - www.thegloballearningnetwork.org.uk



World Ocean Day and Blue Influencers

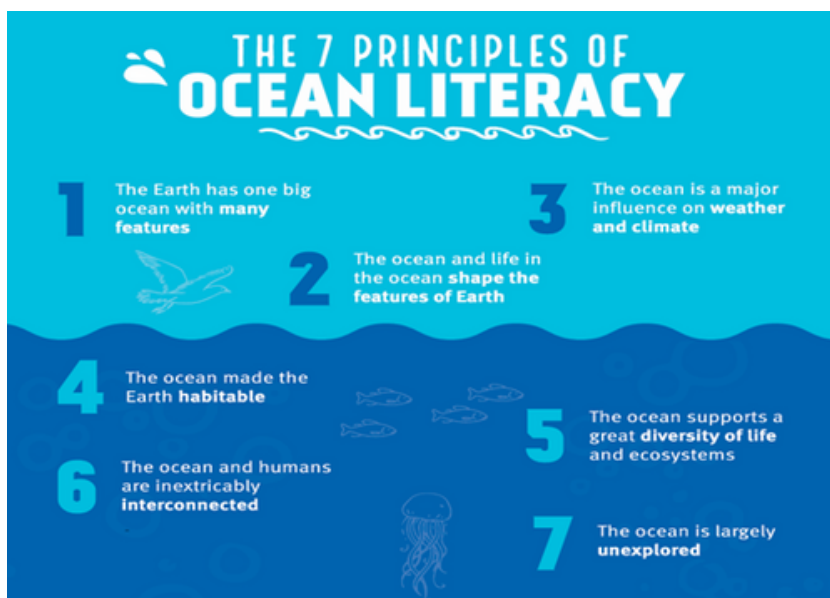
"Fortunately, nature has a few big places beyond man's power to spoil - the ocean, the two icy ends of the globe, and the Grand Canyon." John Muir wrote many quotable passages, but perhaps none is more difficult to read today than this one. We have certainly been testing the resilience of these places that once seemed indestructible.

With the latest film from David Attenborough currently receiving a lot of publicity ([and available to watch in cinemas](#)), and with World Ocean Day taking place this month, it seems like a good time to take a closer look at the ocean.

The ocean is clearly the main focus of Sustainable Development Goal #14 (Life Below Water), but it also features in many of the other SDGs including #12 (Responsible Consumption) and #13 (Climate Action).

The ocean is threatened by pollution, overfishing, damaging fishing methods, and the consequences of global warming, and the big push now is for people to develop ocean literacy: understanding the ocean's influence on you and your influence on the ocean.

Developing this form of 'literacy' is often the first step towards justice in many areas e.g. social justice, environmental justice and climate justice, and justice for our ocean is no different. A great way to introduce the principles of Ocean Literacy is World Ocean Day; and World Ocean Day for Schools has produced some great resources - [take a look here](#)



Things to think about in school - how many of your children have never been to the beach?

Try hosting a class discussion on how their daily life connects to the ocean:

- Breathing (up to 50% of the oxygen on earth is produced by ocean life)
- Water - drinking, washing, flushing
- Waste and litter
- Eating - seafood
- Weather
- Climate change

If you take them to the beach, how can you include sustainability learning and practical action in a meaningful way that still allows them lots of time to play and explore?

- Try a 2 minute beach clean
- Teach them about beach nesting birds
- Submit some records for [Cumbria Wildwatch](#)

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CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEA AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

PRESERVE THE BLUE, PROTECT THE EARTH: URGENT ACTIONS NEEDED TO SAFEGUARD THE PLANET'S **LARGEST ECOSYSTEM**



OCEAN EMERGENCY



COASTAL EUTROPHICATION:

CAUSING ALGAL BLOOMS AND DEAD ZONES



OCEAN ACIDIFICATION:

30% HIGHER THAN IN PRE-INDUSTRIAL TIMES



OCEAN WARMING:

SEA-LEVEL RISE AND AFFECTING MARINE ECOSYSTEMS



PLASTIC POLLUTION:

17 MILLION METRIC TONS IN 2021-2-3X MORE BY 2040



OVER-FISHING:

MORE THAN A THIRD OF GLOBAL FISH STOCKS ARE OVERFISHED

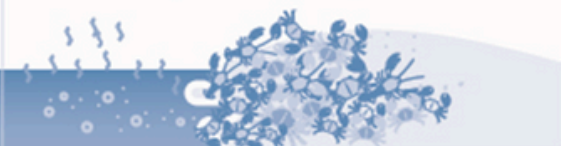
CITIZEN SCIENCE BEACH CLEAN-UPS

SHED LIGHT ON THE MAGNITUDE OF OCEAN PLASTIC POLLUTION



SUFFOCATING SEAS

COASTAL EUTROPHICATION TRIGGERS CRUSTACEAN WALKOUTS



OCEAN ACIDIFICATION REPORTING STATIONS HAVE TRIPLED WORLDWIDE



2021: 178 STATIONS
2022: 308 STATIONS
2023: 539 STATIONS

1 IN 5 FISH CAUGHT ORIGINATES FROM ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING



THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS REPORT 2023: SPECIAL EDITION- [UNSTATS.UN.ORG/SDGS/REPORT/2023/](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/)

The Ernest Cook Trust supports CDEC along with many other organisations across the country to employ a Blue Mentor and support youth social action by Blue Influencers - could your pupils be Blue Influencers? We are looking to recruit more Blue Influencer groups to start in September.

- for Blue Influencers contact: geoff@cdec.org.uk
- for Climate Curriculum and Climate Action Plan support: alison@cdec.org.uk
- for Blue Influencers in the Morecambe Bay area: anthony@morecambebay.org.uk

Connected Cumbria

'Connected Cumbria' is a photography project and exhibition coordinated by Lucy Grecic, who's studying art and design at Kendal College. With support from CDEC, Lucy and some of her fellow students visited charities and businesses across Cumbria and photographed the work they are doing to help build a fairer and more sustainable future.



The exhibition opened at the Wildman Gallery in Kendal at the end of March with representatives from Westmorland and Furness Council in attendance. This collaboration forms part of CDEC's **PLACE (Paths to Leadership - Active Community Engagement)** project which is funded by the council and is also part of Lucy's course - one of her tutors at Kendal College said, "it was great to see Lucy work with CDEC on a live project. It's important to us as tutors that our course can offer these opportunities".

Photos from the exhibition - above l-r, Cumbria Clothing Collective & Connected Cumbria logo installation; below l-r, Waste Into Wellbeing & Rattle Ghyll Deli



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This is an important success for Lucy and demonstrates both the value of CDEC's partnership model and the purpose of the funding from Westmorland & Furness Council for the PLACE project, which CDEC manages.

Lucy described the idea behind the project: "it's intended to highlight the efforts being made across the county to champion and embed equity, community and environmental sustainability. We wanted to provide a platform for charity workers, business leaders, and community members to connect, share ideas and inspire hope for a fairer and more sustainable future.

"This project is specifically aimed at using creativity to promote and uplift the good work happening across Cumbria, with the intention of celebrating compassionate and sustainable projects locally in a way to inspire more of them in our communities."



More photos from the exhibition - above, Friends of the Lake District; below, Ernest Cook Trust; left, Arnside Repair Café

Of the exhibition itself, she said, "it was important to create a space where people can walk into and be surrounded by reasons to feel hopeful and inspired.

"On a personal level, going out to take some of these pictures, along with working closely with CDEC and experiencing their enthusiasm and willingness to support this project, has opened my eyes to just how many people and projects there are within just this county committed to the same hope and compassion-driven goals. It has been really uplifting for me to see and be a part of, so I hope this small exhibition can make some others feel the same way."



The exhibition is currently on display at Kendal Town Hall and will be moved to Furness Academy towards the end of June for the Youth Climate Summit on 27th.

CDEC MEMBERSHIP 2025-26

We've had great success this year supporting Global Learning in schools via CDEC membership. Member schools have engaged with our project work, training courses and resource boxes throughout the year and we have a record number of schools signed up for the Youth Climate Summit at the end of June.

Partnerships and collaborations are at the heart of all we do and the relationships we build with our member schools allow us to continue delivering Global Learning across the county - so, thank you for your support!

This year, we've really started to see the positive impact of working with groups of schools via local clusters and MATs - and not just for us. Schools and teachers benefit from strong working relationships with each other and our in-person training courses and other events are better for you if we can come to you at a time of your choosing. We'd like to build on that for next year, so get together with the other schools in your cluster or MAT and encourage them to renew their CDEC membership or sign up for the first time so we can continue to build these relationships.

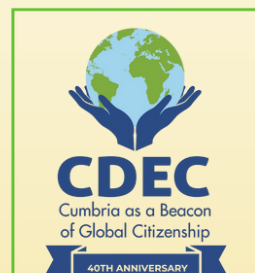
Follow this link to join or to renew your membership

CLICK HERE



The benefits of CDEC membership for 2025-26:

- Members' newsletter
- A FREE place on one of our open training courses
- BORROW our Resource Boxes
- Additional, bespoke SUPPORT for your cluster/MAT
- Opportunities to get involved in our PROJECT WORK
- Your school in a draw for FREE CDEC books!
- The satisfaction that you are supporting Global Learning in Cumbria for years to come!



[Follow this link](#) for more information about CDEC membership
and a full list of benefits for 2025-26

Membership Fees - 2025-26

- | | |
|---|------|
| • All preschools and nursery schools and
• Primary schools with fewer than 50 pupils | £45 |
| | |
| • Primary schools with more than 50 pupils | £80 |
| | |
| • Secondary schools | £100 |

If you're not sure whether or not you need to renew or
if you have any other questions about membership,
please send an email to dan@cdec.org.uk

TRAINING COURSES 2025-26



TEACHING A CLIMATE CURRICULUM 2025-26



This CPD will provide you with the tools and approaches to integrate climate change meaningfully into both the taught and hidden curriculum, with the minimum of effort and disruption. It will also provide support with the creation of your school's Climate Action Plan.

Wed 8th Oct // 9am - 4pm // Penrith

[CLICK HERE](#)

ORACY THROUGH PUPIL VOICE



Explore techniques for developing engagement and agency with an emphasis on social justice. Through the stages of FIDS (feel, imagine, do and share), your pupils will develop their oracy and communication, leadership and teamwork skills, and will feel empowered to make a difference within their school community.

Thu 16th Oct // 1pm - 4pm // Kendal

[CLICK HERE](#)

Critical thinking in an age of disinformation



Equip your learners with the skills to analyse texts and media critically, recognising power dynamics, biases, and perspectives. Encourage questioning, and challenge engagement with information in a thoughtful and informed way, ultimately fostering social justice and critical thinking.

Wed 22nd Oct // 1pm - 4pm // venue tbc

[CLICK HERE](#)

Embedding Global Learning and the Sustainable Development Goals

Introducing and exploring Global Learning and how incorporating the UN's Sustainable Development Goals can contribute to all areas of the curriculum, address learning objectives and develop active and engaged global citizens.

Tue 11th Nov // 1pm - 4pm // venue tbc

[CLICK HERE](#)



40 Activities

As part of our 40th Anniversary celebrations, we're sharing 40 activities for you to use in your classroom - these two are connected to event days in June.

- [Ocean Journeys](#) - this is connected to **World Ocean Day** on 8th June and encourages the exploration of our Cumbrian coastline and its wildlife.
- [Simple Acts for Refugee Week](#) - This activity contains the experiences of two refugees; one in the form of a song, and the other, a poem. Both are invitations to question the nature of belonging, community, safety and the sense of home.

You can find more in our '40 Activities' series on [this page of our website](#).

The Great Big Green Week

**THE GREAT
BIG GREEN
WEEK** 

GBGW is **7th - 15th June** which is shortly after half term, but there's still time to get involved.

[Take a look here](#) at ideas for events and activities to do in school for GBGW and sign up to receive a FREE bundle of resources.

Refugee Week

This year, Refugee Week is **16th - 22nd June** and the theme is 'Community as a Superpower'.

There are lots of ways to get involved - find out more on the [refugeeweek.org website here](#) and access the [children and young people pack here](#).



Cumbria Wild Watch

This wildlife survey with Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre will be taking place across the weekend of **26th-29th June 2025** and it's really easy get involved - find out all you need to know at the link below and help us understand what wildlife we have in Cumbria!



CLICK HERE

