

Lesson 13: Celebrate clean air in 2020

Outline for student presentation

Imagine: The year is 2020. You and your classmates have worked very hard over the past several years to make people across Ontario aware of the connection between their energy use and air pollution. Although there were times when you felt discouraged, you never gave up. Yes, there were people who did not want to change their energy use habits, but you were determined to change their minds. You knew it was important to the future of the Earth and your determination paid off! The air is now cleaner and healthier to breathe than it was in the year you participated in 20/20 The Way to Clean Air. Amazing! Not to mention that people go to the hospital less now because their lungs are healthier and their eyes do not hurt.

Write your acceptance speech for the 20/20 Way to Clean Air Award. In your speech, you must include:

- A brief outline of who you are and what you are now doing in the year 2020 (use your imagination!)
- A brief overview of the state of the air so many years ago when you first began this project.
- How you felt as you learned more and more about what you could do to change the future of air quality.
- The challenges that you faced and how you overcame them.
- The people you want to thank for helping you succeed along the way.



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Teacher instructions

(Note: Students should complete the 20/20 The Way to Clean Air “at home” program before they do this activity.)

Introducing the activity

- This activity is a great way to celebrate the end of the 20/20 The Way to Clean Air “at home” two-week program. Students must use a variety of creative, analytical, and critical thinking skills to complete this exercise.
- Set the stage for students by asking them to take themselves forward to the year 2020. Then read them the “imagine” paragraph from the student presentation outline:

“The year is 2020. You and your classmates have worked very hard over the past several years to make people across Ontario aware of the connection between their energy use and air pollution. Although there were times when you felt discouraged, you never gave up. Yes, there were people who did not want to change their energy use habits, but you were determined to change their minds. You knew it was important to the future of the Earth and your determination paid off! The air is now cleaner and healthier to breathe than it was in the year you participated in 20/20 The Way to Clean Air. Amazing! Not to mention that people go to the hospital less now because their lungs are healthier and their eyes do not hurt.”

- Explain to students that they will be writing an acceptance speech for the 20/20 The Way to Clean Air Award. Ask them what they think are important things to include in an acceptance speech. Record their suggestions on the front board.
- Hand out the “student presentation” and review the outline of what is expected in their speeches.
- This culminating activity is meant to help you assess student success as well as help students celebrate their success.