

Jessica Cao
Professor Maria Cipriani
English 1121
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Creator/Artist Statement

In "Planet Protectors: The Climate Change Challenge," I made a comic book written for Fourth graders that instills in them an environmental sense through the effective use of the comic book and great illustrations. Realizing the pressing issue of climate change and its implications, the goal of the project was to inform and induce action in a way that is effective and resonant to children and their caretakers.

The real goal was to break down the issue of climate change in a way that a younger audience can understand and act on. The call to address environmental issues is loud and clear, but much of the discussion around such issues is geared towards adults. The impacts on animals and weather patterns were specifically targeted to resonate with the natural empathy children have towards animals and the easy observation of weather changes.

Understanding this has impacted many compositional choices, such as understanding that my main readers are children probably led me to such a basic and direct language. It has an activating call-to-action tone that encourages immediate personal engagement. The design of bright colors and cartoonish characters is bound to be eye-catching and relate to children's imagination.

I purposefully chose a visual story, a comic book. The photo essay style is supportive of integration of textual information with strong visual images, which in capturing the attention of a young audience is vitally important. Each page in the comic book informs the reader and engages visually with both textual and visual stimuli.

The outcome achieved is that of creating an attractive, interactive learning interface that encourages children to study climate change. The feedback is that the characters are memorable, and the message got across. Nevertheless, if more time was provided, I would develop the storyline to include more interactive elements, like clickable facts or quizzes, in order to cater to the reader's interactive learning process more.

This project has established the foundation for further educational tools on this burning issue. In a perfect world, the development of this project would include further, more detailed sections that outline the specific actions children can take to help in the preservation of the environment on a day-to-day basis. Possibly, the interactive portions could be enhanced to include real-time weather updates or interactive maps showing local environmental projects.

The "Planet Protectors" project is a stepping stone to the large purpose: growing an informed and active generation for fighting climate change. In implementing this creative project, it's my hope that I will work actively with the Fourth graders of our community, rather than just awareness creation.

In Conclusion "Planet Protectors: The Climate Change Challenge" is a project that becomes the most crucial educational tool in the issue of fighting climate change. Engaging young minds in such a critical issue contributes to a broader goal of raising an environmentally conscious generation—one that is ready to confront the challenges of preserving and protecting our planet.