

How to Converse About Climate Change

10.3.22
Session
Report

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the reason BEHIND

Strategy

- Uses stories to highlight the essential elements for climate conversation success.
- Pair empathetic listening with deep digging questions to uncover what has worked best for others.
- Gain a sense of must dos and what to avoid in order have a satisfying climate conversation.

Goals

- To share stories about meaningful, satisfying climate conversations
- Spot what has worked best for others
- To narrow the list of what works down to the minimum needed to have a satisfying climate conversation.

Resources:

Liberating Structures (www.liberatingstructures.com)

The background is a vibrant yellow with a subtle, organic texture. Faint, dark silhouettes of trees are scattered across the surface, creating a sense of depth and nature. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

Mining for Conversation Gold

the maximal elements

Wanting to help, together

Have an open mind

Local examples

towards systemic change instead of personal sacrifice

connection

finding common ground

Personal stories that are easily relatable

Share hacks and resources

(Start with) shared interests

Mutual positive regard / mutual respect

Listen

Reframe the conversation

talk with people already convinced climate change is real

learning a new perspective

use other names for climate change so it does not trigger the other person

sharing personal stories of climate action

Climate conversations that link to saving money

Personal anecdotes

be ok with uncomfortable/tension

Empathy

the minimal elements

Mutual positive regard / mutual s

Empathy.

Listening

Finding common ground

Reframing the conversation

Sharing and exchange of resources.

Learning a new perspective.

the wrap UP

Summarizing thoughts

This activity helps us identify what to do and what to avoid in order to have a satisfying climate conversation.

Suggested Next Steps

We recommend the following steps in the week following this activity:

1. Write your element (the one that spoke to you) on a sticky and post it in a visible place.
2. Be open to opportunities for climate conversations throughout the week.
3. When an opportunity for conversation, focus on using your strategy.
4. Report back to the team on Discourse about how it went.

Other relevant offerings:

- As a follow up activity we offer **Conversation Cafe**, a session that provides an opportunity to practice the elements we uncovered today. We also offer **Critical Uncertainties** which helps teams develop strategies for navigating a range of possible, yet unpredictable futures.

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