Calling all young scientists, writers, and artists: The planet needs your help!

Climate change is causing problems for the people, plants, and animals that call Earth home. While these problems may be different in different places, all of them can improve if we speak up and ask our government leaders to take action to protect our future on Earth. In this activity you can create a message to your representatives in Congress that explains why you care about the Earth, and why they should too!

Supplies:
- Attached worksheet (a blank sheet of paper works fine too!
- Crayons, pencils, paint, or any other arts supplies you have
- A camera, camera phone, or scanner to photograph and upload your submission to the Climate Museum’s online form.

Directions:
1. Think about why taking care of the planet matters to you.
   Your message can express anything you think your representatives should know about Earth or the people, plants, and animals that live here! They have the power to make big decisions on how we take care of our Earth, so it is important to let them know what matters to you.
2. Create your message!
   You can create a message with words, pictures, or both! Every Climate Art for Congress piece is unique and we can’t wait to see what you create.
3. Send your message to the Climate Museum - and we will do the rest!
   Once you have finished, ask an adult to help you upload a picture of your message to our online form. For best results, we recommend using the attached worksheet or a blank, unlined sheet of paper and doing a color scan of the finished letter. “Genius Scan” is a free smartphone app that works beautifully. From there, the Climate Museum will print and mail your message to your representative in Congress!
4. You are a published artist!
   In addition to sending your message to Congress, the Climate Museum will post your submission in our online gallery where people all over the world can see it and be inspired!
   *Note: only first names, ages, and states will be posted online.

Now that you have submitted your Climate Art for Congress, tell your friends and family to create their own! You can send them to climatemuseum.org/climateartforcongress to get started.

More resources:
Climate Science
- NASA's Climate Kids website has games, activities, videos, and more
- ACE (Action for the Climate Emergency)'s Our Climate Our Future video series

Talking About Climate Change With Young People
- Your Guide to Talking With Kids of All Ages About Climate Change (NRDC 2019)
- 6 Tips For Talking To Kids About Climate Change (NPR 2019)
- How to talk with kids about climate change (Yale Climate Connections 2020)

Learn Who Represents You in Congress
- https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map