

Menu des Projets d'Art pour la Route à Travers Paris

(Menu of Arts Projects for the Road Through Paris)

Here is a menu of some favorite arts projects to do together with your group, friends or community for the global public demonstrations on the “Road Through Paris” -- before, during and beyond the global UN climate talks and mass mobilizations in Paris and around the world this Nov-Dec. We will be pushing world governments to agree to a climate deal that's in line with the imperatives of science and justice: keep 80% of fossil fuels in the ground and finance a just transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050. And we will keep building a global movement to make it happen whether or not they listen.

Best wishes and have fun! --David Solnit, North American Arts Organizer, 350.org

Pieces of the Solution Project; Draw your solutions to climate chaos on

Puzzle-piece shaped paper (or cardboard or plywood). This project is as simple as pre-cutting the puzzle-piece shaped paper and having art supplies for your friends, groups members, community or students in schools. Make a plan of where you will display these solutions publicly—at a demonstration or event, on the walls at a community space or cafe. The small paper puzzle pieces can be attached to larger cardboard puzzle pieces and carried in the street, put on display, or delivered to power holders who need to be pushed to be part of the solution. How-To and photos:

(PUZZLE) PIECES OF THE SOLUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

An Arts Education Project

WHAT: A participatory art project for students, youth, or adults that makes art for public action, for public display, and to send out in order to put decision makers on notice to be “part of the solution”.

Make art and words showing our solutions to the problem of climate change on paper or cardboard in the shape of puzzle piece.



WHY: To visually show solutions to climate change, and impacts of fossil fuels.

To engage participants and raise the attention of our communities and the public.

WHO: Youth, student, or community groups of people concerned about climate change, fossil fuels, and their impact on our communities.

HOW: Make art on puzzle-piece-shaped paper or cardboard with groups, communities and students who will draw, paint and write on cut-out paper puzzle “pieces of the solution.”

Make a plan of where this art will be publicly displayed: a planned public action, event or demonstration; or it could be exhibited at a community space, school, storefront or other public space.

The art can also be delivered to key climate-related decision makers with the call for them to be “part of the solution”, if that makes sense in your community.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **PLAN WITH YOUR GROUP:** Here’s the great organizing and outreach part: find an existing group, school class, after-school group, senior center, union, church group, group of friends, etc. and work with them to make “Pieces of the Solution.” This is a great chance to offer a short presentation about why your group is doing the project and about some solutions, and invite people to help show the solutions at the public event/location, and maybe even help deliver it to the decision-maker/power holder.
2. **PREPARE SUPPLIES:** Make a template. I usually make it on standard 8 ½ x 11 heavy paper, with just one outward tab and one inward one on each side (a

super-basic puzzle piece shape--**see sample**). Trace onto your cardstock or heavy paper, posterboard, or cardboard. Cut out paper.

3. Gather the supplies for artmaking: paints/brushes/containers, markers, pastels, colored pencils, pencils, etc.
4. **ASK** participants to respond to **the** question, "What is one solution to the problem of climate change?" You can also choose to include a local source of climate change, like fracking, waste incinerator, crude by rail/oil trains, etc. Encourage people to choose one specific solution that speaks to them, make a big simple image, and add words if that helps make it clearer.

350.org and many other parts of the movement are telling world leaders that the big picture solution is essentially to:

- Keep 80% of fossil fuels in the ground.
- Fund a just transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050

Another way of asking "*What is one solution?*" is to ask some questions:

"What is one way we can keep fossil fuels in the ground in our region?"

"What could a just transition to renewables look like where we live?"

"What is one renewable energy or energy conservation alternative where we live?"

Tell the participant-artists where the art will ultimately be seen, and if it will be delivered in some way to a decision-maker/power holder, so they can be aware of their audience.

4) DRAW, PAINT, & WRITE YOUR SOLUTION: Draw, paint, color and write your solution. Picture making tips: make **the** image clear, simple, and readable. You may want to sketch in pencil first, or even practice your sketch on another piece **of** paper. Sign it with your name, your city (and if you are a youth or student, your age).

5) DISPLAY: Take the small paper "pieces of the solution" and display them.

Two suggestions/versions: big cardboard sign boards or simple clotheslines.

CARDBOARD PUZZLE DISPLAY SIGN: Smaller individual **pieces** will be glued onto giant cardboard sections. Get big cardboard such as an extra-large moving box or re-used bike or appliance box.

DRAW the puzzle piece: It can be whatever size your cardboard allows. I have made them 42 inches high and 54 inches wide--to the tip of the protruding puzzle tab.

CUT out puzzle shape using a utility knife (with plywood or other backing to protect your table or floor surface). Some tough scissors or even kitchen shears will work on single-ply cardboard. After you cut it out, **TAPE** the edges with masking tape folded over the edges to make it a bit more durable, cleaner looking, and water resistant. You can make the sign more rigid and flat by gluing (Elmers-type white glue or wood

glue) strips of cardboard--with the grain/direction of the cardboard going the opposite long way of the grain of the big cardboard--and then taping around the edges with masking tape. This helps the big sign stay flat and avoid folding/flapping. If you want to carry it at a public march or demonstration you can choose to attach the big cardboard puzzle piece to a stick--like a picket sign--so it will be very visible.

PAINT both sides with a bright color (we used a brilliant blue--the color of water) --use latex house paint or acrylic art paint. We have been using paint with a semi-gloss finish, because it is more water/rain resistance than flat or satin paint.

ARRANGE the paper "pieces" on the big painted cardboard base piece.

GLUE the "pieces" to the front of the giant cardboard piece using Elmers-type white glue or wood glue or heavy duty spray adhesive. Remember, they will be out of doors and exposed to wind, and possibly even a little moisture.

CLOTHESLINE: Use clothesline, rope or string, and clothespins. Attach at the most visible spot near eye-level (1 foot per "puzzle piece"). Like an old-style laundry line, clip all of your pieces of paper art on the cord. Include some messaging on your line explaining in giant lettering what they are, for example-- squares or puzzle pieces that say: "PIECES OF THE SOLUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE".

6) DELIVERY TO DECISION-MAKERS: This can be both a photo friendly visual of delivering the "pieces" to the decision maker or official, a media event, and a chance to have a meeting--maybe with your delegations of reps from allied groups/communities--with the decision maker or their staff. Short of a formal meeting with a decision-making politician, you can also try to arrange for someone in their office to deliver your art and message later, which can be a powerful photo-op.

7) DOCUMENT: The whole "pieces of the solution" process can be a great project to document from start to finish. Make a photo and written article for social media, include children and other participating artists, and invite media to cover it.



