

PLAN YOUR YRE JOURNEY

For young reporters

Name:



PLAN A JOURNEY THAT WORKS FOR YOU

Use this worksheet throughout your project.

Keep a short record of your YRE discoveries, choices, and learning in one place. Fill it in as you move through the four YRE steps. At the end, look back to see how your ideas developed. If you are starting this worksheet later, use your notes to help you reflect.

Short notes, bullet points, or drawings are enough. You can change your answers as you learn more.



Every YRE project develops differently. Some investigations may take a few weeks; others may continue much longer.

This timeline offers one possible **six-week structure** to help you organise the four YRE steps. Use it as a planning tool rather than a fixed schedule: adapt the timing as your investigation develops.

The steps can overlap. You might start contacting people early, return to your research after an interview, or plan where to share your story while creating it.

You can use this timeline together with the individual YRE Journey Guides for more support at each stage.

WEEK 1:

NOTICE, CHOOSE & ASK



1 Step 1: Investigate

Look around you and identify an environmental issue that catches your attention.

CHOOSE

What matters to me?

Notice what is happening around you and choose an environmental issue, change, or question you genuinely want to understand. You could also start with something positive happening locally and investigate how it helps.

My topic:

ASK

What do I want to find out, and why does it matter?

My investigation question:

This matters to my community because:

By the end of this stage, try to have:

- An issue you genuinely want to understand.
- An idea of why it matters to your community.
- Some first observations or evidence.
- One main question to guide your investigation.
- An initial idea of who or what may be affected.

WEEK 2:

INVESTIGATE

1 Step 1: Investigate

- Start looking more closely at what is happening.
- Observe. Collect information. Look for patterns. Search for reliable sources. Explore possible causes and effects and connect what you see locally with the bigger environmental picture where relevant.
- Start arranging conversations with people who could help you understand more. They may need time to respond.
- Record where your information comes from and what you still need to check. Evidence might come from observations, simple counts, books, local records, or reliable online sources.

What does the evidence I have gathered suggest?

The most important thing my evidence showed:

Where this evidence came from:

Something I still need to check:

By the end of this stage, aim to explain what your evidence suggests:

What is happening?

Why might it be happening?

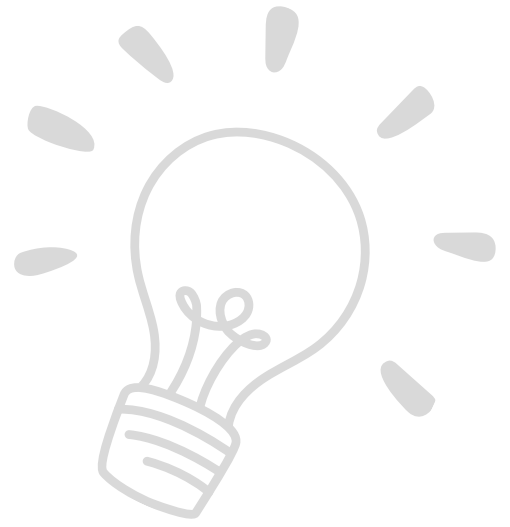
Who or what is affected?

ASK YOURSELF:

What does my evidence help me explain, and what am I still unsure about?

WEEK 3:

LISTEN & EXPLORE SOLUTIONS



2 Step 2: Research Solutions

Who can help me understand it?

Speak with people who are affected by the issue, know about it, or are working to improve the situation. Compare what people tell you with the evidence you have gathered. Explore different experiences, expertise, and perspectives, including those that challenge what you initially thought.

A perspective that changed or deepened my understanding:

Whose perspective was this? Record their role or connection to the issue; a name is not necessary.

EXPLORE

Use what you learn to explore possible solutions:

● What is already being done?

● What seems to work, and what evidence supports this?

● What have people learned from earlier attempts or difficulties?

● What could realistically change?

● What can I learn from other communities or places, and would their approach fit here?

A solution or opportunity worth communicating:

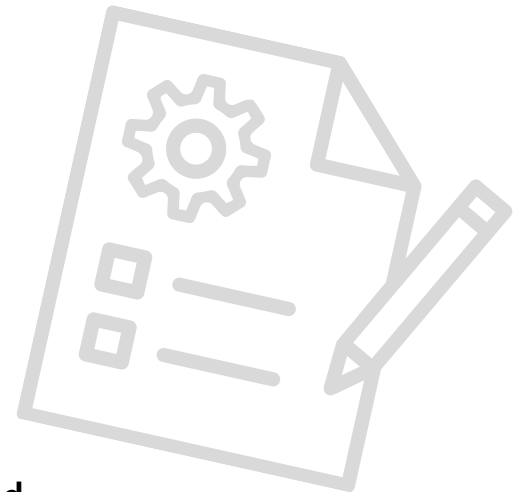
Evidence that suggests it could help...

Whose perspective am I still missing?

What would help it work here, and what still needs checking?

WEEK 4: FIND YOUR MESSAGE

3 Step 3: Report



Now step back and look at everything you have learned.

What is the most important thing your investigation has revealed?

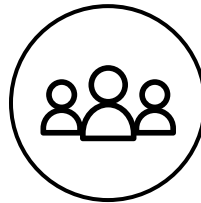
DECIDE

What do I want to communicate, to whom, and how?

Start with:

**PURPOSE:**

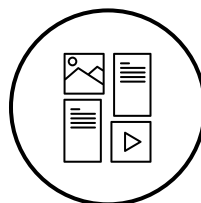
What do I want to achieve?

**AUDIENCE:**

Who do I need to reach?

**MESSAGE:**

What do I want them to take away?

**FORMAT:**

How should I communicate it?

My purpose: _____

My audience: _____

My core message: _____

My chosen format: _____

Where might they first come across it: through a friend, a group message, a short video, radio, a school display, or another route?

Ask a few people in your intended audience what would work for them.

Choose one realistic way to reach them and check whether you need anyone's help to arrange it.

WEEK 5:

CREATE

3 Step 3: Report + preparing for Step 4

Now create your report using your evidence, the perspectives you gathered, and what you learned about possible solutions.

My report's title or a short description:

I checked my report's accuracy, source credits and permissions before sharing.

AS YOU CREATE:

- ☐ Show what you discovered about the issue and possible solutions.
- ☐ Check facts, quotations, source credits, and permissions.
- ☐ Use your own voice and make your meaning clear.
- ☐ Ask someone to read, watch or listen and tell you what they understood.
- ☐ Make any useful changes before sharing.

Note: If you use AI for support, check its suggestions, follow your project's rules, and record how it helped. Your choices, findings, and creativity should guide the work.

Prepare a short introduction that gives people a reason to explore your report. Include one accurate finding and why it matters to them. This could be a few spoken sentences, a short message, or a caption.

Ask yourself:

- ☐ Is my report accurate, easy to understand, and ready for the people I want to reach?

WEEK 6 AND BEYOND: SHARE, LISTEN & REFLECT

4 Step 4: Disseminate

Your work is ready. Put your sharing plan into action.

Share your story with the audience you identified. Think about who else could help pass it on, and whether a short introduction or extract could help another audience discover it.



How will I help my report reach my intended audience?

Give people something to respond to: a question, a promising idea to discuss, or a clear request.

Pay attention to what happens

☐ Did anyone respond?

☐ Did someone share your work?

☐ Did it start a conversation?

☐ Did someone take action?

☐ Did you discover something new?

Keep a simple record of what you observed. If appropriate, follow up once with someone you contacted. Share a short update if you have a useful, verified development to add.

A reply, a new question, or someone explaining what they learned can all be meaningful.

Change may take longer to become visible.

REFLECT

What happened and what did I learn?

Look at what happened after you shared, and think back over your whole YRE journey.

Who I reached, how they responded and what evidence I have:

Something I learned, or a way my thinking changed:

Something I am proud of:

A discovery or possible solution that gave me hope:

Something I would do differently next time:

If I used AI or other support, how it helped and which creative choices were mine:

YOUR YRE TIMELINE



STUDENT PLANNING BOX

Plans:	Plans:
I would like to start my investigation by:	
I aim to complete my planned interviews by:	
I would like to have my first report draft by:	
I plan to begin sharing my work by:	
I will check what happened and reflect by:	

Support or resources I may need:	
My next step, or when I will finish (and celebrate):	

Remember: these dates are a guide, adjust them as you learn.

An unexpected finding or a new question may take your investigation in a new, useful direction.

HABITS TO TAKE INTO YOUR NEXT YRE JOURNEY



BE CURIOUS

Don't be afraid to ask questions, even simple ones.



LOOK FOR EVIDENCE

Separate what you know from what you assume.



LISTEN

Seek different experiences and perspectives.



THINK CRITICALLY

Question information, solutions, and your own ideas.



STAY OPEN

Allow evidence and other people to change your understanding.



MAKE YOUR OWN DECISIONS

Take ownership of your investigation and communication.



COMMUNICATE WITH PURPOSE

Think about why, who, and what before deciding how.



ACT RESPONSIBLY

Treat people, information, and the environment with care.



REFLECT & ADAPT

Notice what helps, what needs rethinking and what you could do next.