

# Muinín Catalyst Sustainable STEAM Newsletter

December 2023



## Welcome to Our Winter Newsletter!

We have had a busy first term of the academic year. We have continued to engage with external experts to develop new programmes. We have additionally been recruiting and delivering our Muinín Catalyst Sustainable STEAM programmes in schools across Munster.

In this newsletter, we introduce two of our external experts, Dr. Jennifer Keenahan and Dr. Michael Lennon, who have worked on our Future of the Ocean, Offshore Wind Energy micro-module and our Climate Change Engage Transition Year unit. We also share our recent ESCI and ISSN training that we delivered on Eco-Anxiety, From Urgency to Agency. Our last piece is about our STEAM Taster Programme which we are delivering at Coláiste na Sceilge, Cahersiveen Co Kerry within their Transition Year Programme.

We look forward to the new year and new opportunities!

### Offshore Wind Energy: Introducing Dr. Jennifer Keenahan

We are delighted to introduce Dr. Jennifer Keenahan. Jennifer has developed a micro-module in our new Transition Year programme, The Future of the Ocean...

[Read](#)

### ESCI and ISSN Training: 'From Urgency to Agency'

On September 26th, 2023 the Muinín Catalyst Sustainable STEAM (MCSS) team had the opportunity to deliver an online training workshop...

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### STEAM Taster Programme with Transition Year Learners

This academic year, we are facilitating a STEAM Programme with Transition Year (TY) students in Coláiste na Sceilge, Cahersiveen Co Kerry...

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### Climate Change Engage: Introducing Dr. Michael Lennon

We are delighted to introduce Dr. Michael Lennon, UCD. Michael led the UCD team on the Irish Research Council New Foundations project...

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## OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY: INTRODUCING DR. JENNIFER KEENAHAN

As a part of our External Expertise interview series, we are delighted to introduce Dr. Jennifer Keenahan. Jennifer has developed a micro-module in our new Transition Year programme, The Future of the Ocean.

The Future of the Ocean, immerses learners in the captivating realm of the ocean, the very lifeblood of our planet, through a comprehensive programme designed to foster understanding, empathy and action.

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## ESCI AND ISSN TRAINING: 'FROM URGENCY TO AGENCY'

On September 26th, 2023 the Muinin Catalyst Sustainable STEAM (MCSS) team had the opportunity to deliver an online training workshop through the Education Support Centres Ireland and Irish Schools Sustainability Network. This workshop was entitled 'From Urgency to Agency - Supporting Young People's Passion, Purpose and Practice.'

Educators experienced hands-on activities using our free, project-based STEAM resources for engagement with climate change and civic engagement.

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### SDG3 Eco Anxiety: Crisis to Connection



#### SDG3 Eco Anxiety: Crisis to Connection

##### Overview

**Subject Areas:** Climate Action and Sustainable Development, CSPE, SPHE

##### Module Summary:

##### SDG3 Eco Anxiety: Crisis to Connection

This module will support learners in gaining knowledge about eco-anxiety; (short for ecological anxiety and also known as eco-distress or climate-anxiety) which is the distress caused by climate change where people are becoming anxious about their future. Learners will develop an awareness of and an understanding of what it is, the personal, communal and international effects and ways of empowering self and others experiencing eco-anxiety.

##### Vocabulary:

Anxiety, Activism, Advocate, Empower, Eco-anxiety, Fear, Leadership, Mindfulness, Positive action, Resilience, Restoration, Respect, Society, Stress, Self soothe, Self regulation, Wellbeing, Worry, Youth leader

##### In this module, the learner will:

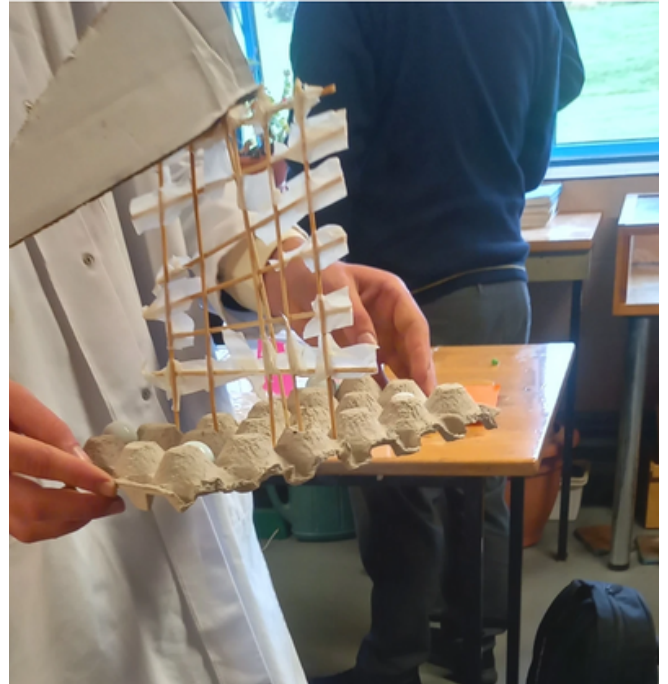
## Latest News

- Featured Monthly Resource - We launched our featured monthly resource in April. Check out our November featured resource 'What if the Whole World Went Vegan' and visit the archive to see more.
- Take 1 Week Packet - This year we created a packet of lessons for Take 1 Week.
- Christmas Advent Packet - Access our 2023 Advent Calendar which aligns each day to SDGs.
- Our Climate Change Engage programme has been chosen as one of the initial 100 outstanding teacher-led solutions by Teachers for the Planet, which will feature in our online repository that will be launched on 8th December at RewirED Summit at the Global Climate Change Conference (COP28). The web link to access the repository can be found here.
- We are also thrilled to have our CCE project featured in an upcoming book from Springer University Initiatives on Climate Change Education and Research
- Keep an eye out on our social media channels (or subscribe to our mailing list!) for information on the next online clinic.
- New Platform: Access our new platform here.

## STEAM TASTER PROGRAMME WITH TRANSITION YEAR LEARNERS

This academic year, we are facilitating a STEAM Programme with Transition Year (TY) students in Coláiste na Sceilge, Cahersiveen Co Kerry. We are working with groups in five-week rotations, have completed one rotation, and are currently in the middle of the second, taking us up to Christmas break.

The STEAM programme is an adaptation of our 'Problem to Pitch' module, taking selected aspects of lessons and challenges, that support young people to enjoy learning while building adaptive skills in design thinking and the four C's- Communication, Creativity, Collaboration and Critical Thinking.



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## CLIMATE CHANGE ENGAGE: INTRODUCING DR. MICHAEL LENNON

As a part of our External Expertise interview series, we are delighted to introduce [Dr. Michael Lennon](#), UCD. Michael led the UCD team on the [Irish Research Council New Foundations](#) project in collaboration with the SMARTlab Skelligs MCSS team to co-create and deliver a [5-day game design sprint](#). This was then developed into a Transition Year unit, [Climate Change Engage](#). Michael participated in the 5-day design sprint, and developed the nature-based lessons in the Climate Change Engage Transition Year unit.

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### In our next issue

[Subscribe](#) to our newsletters and media channels to see exciting content and developments. In our next newsletter we will have updates on:

- Future of Space - new programme
- Learners' Online Community
- A new collaboration with [Dr. Daithí Ó'Murcú](#) and [Interact Ideas](#) (Portugal); A GEN AI Lesson plan generator for transformative education on the [STREAMS Network](#)



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