

Workshop Title: "Green Minds: Development of critical thinking through Environmental Case Studies"

Introduction:

Hello and welcome, eco-thinkers! Today, we're diving into the world of critical thinking through the lens of environmental case studies. Our goal is to not just understand problems but to develop the skills to solve them. So, let's embark on this journey together.

Icebreaker: "Green or Not Green?" Start with a fun activity where participants classify everyday items as green or not green. This sets the stage for critical thinking about our daily choices and their environmental impact.

Session 1: The Art of Questioning *"The quality of your questions determines the quality of your thinking."*

- **Activity:** Discuss real-world environmental issues. Encourage participants to generate questions about the causes, effects, and potential solutions. This fosters the habit of asking insightful questions.

Session 2: Unraveling Complexity with Case Studies *"Real-world complexities demand critical thinking."*

- **Activity:** Present a case study of a local environmental challenge. Break participants into small groups to analyze the situation, encouraging them to consider multiple perspectives. Each group presents their findings.

Session 3: Connecting the Dots *"Critical thinking is about seeing patterns and connections."*

- **Activity:** Introduce a broader case study that connects local issues to global patterns. Participants brainstorm the interconnections, fostering a holistic understanding of environmental challenges.

Session 4: The Solutions Lab *"Critical thinking requires creative problem-solving."*

- **Activity:** Participants create innovative solutions for the case studies. This interactive session encourages thinking outside the box and underscores the role of creativity in critical thinking.

Session 5: Reflection and Discussion *"Understanding grows when we reflect on our thinking."*

- **Activity:** Have a reflective discussion. Ask participants to share their insights, challenges faced, and how their thinking evolved throughout the workshop. Emphasize the importance of continuous reflection.

Closing: Seeds of Change Encourage participants to carry the critical thinking skills they've cultivated into their daily lives. Share resources for ongoing learning and action in environmental sustainability.

1. The Art of Questioning:

- **Case Study Example: Local Decline in Bee Populations**

- *Context:* Bees play a crucial role in pollination, but their populations are declining. Pose questions like: What factors contribute to this decline? How does it impact ecosystems and agriculture? What can individuals and communities do to address this issue?

2. Unraveling Complexity with Case Studies:

- **Case Study Example: Plastic Pollution in a Local River**

- *Context:* A local river is plagued by plastic pollution. Provide data on its sources, impact on aquatic life, and community health. Each group analyzes the case, exploring the complexities of waste management, consumer behavior, and the role of businesses.

3. Connecting the Dots:

- **Case Study Example: Deforestation in the Amazon Rainforest**

- *Context:* Explore deforestation in the Amazon. Connect it to global issues like climate change, biodiversity loss, and international trade. Discuss how local actions have far-reaching consequences and vice versa.

4. The Solutions Lab:

- **Case Study Example: Urban Air Quality**

- *Context:* High pollution levels in an urban area. Groups brainstorm solutions, considering technological innovations, policy changes and community engagement. Encourage creativity in proposing actionable solutions.

5. Reflection and Discussion:

- **Case Study Example: Renewable Energy Transition in a City**

- *Context:* A city successfully transitions to renewable energy. Participants reflect on challenges faced during the transition, economic and environmental benefits, and how similar initiatives can be applied elsewhere.

Workshop	
"Green Minds: Nurturing Critical Thinking through Environmental Case Studies"	
DAY 1	
9:00 - 9:30	Registration and Welcome
9:30 - 10:30	Introduction and Icebreaker "Green or Not Green?"
Session 1: The Art of Questioning	
10:30 - 10:45	Brief overview of critical thinking and the importance of asking questions
10:45 – 11:15	Present the case study: Local decline in bee populations.
11:15 - 12:00	Discuss and encourage participants to generate questions about the case study.
12:00- 14:00	Lunch
Session 2: Unraveling Complexity with Case Studies:	
14:00 - 14:15	Present the case study example of plastic pollution in a local river.
14:15 – 15:45	Group work: Plastic Pollution in a Local River
15:45 – 16:00	Break
Session 3: Connecting the Dots:	
16:00 - 16:15	Recap session 2 and discuss the interconnectedness of environmental issues.
16:15 - 16:45	Group work: Deforestation in the Amazon rainforest.
16:45 – 17:00	Group discussion on the broader implications and global connections of the case study.
DAY 2	
Session 4: The Solutions Lab:	
10:00 – 10:15	Recap session 3 and introduce the importance of creative problem-solving
10:15 - 10:45	Present the case study example of urban air quality
10:45 – 12:00	Break participants into groups to brainstorm innovative solutions for the case study.
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch
Session 5: Reflection and Discussion	
14:00 -14:45	Recap session 4 and emphasize the value of reflection.
14:45 – 15:45	Reflective discussion: Participants share insights, challenges, and how their thinking evolved during the workshop.
15:45 – 16:00	Awarding Certificates, Acknowledging Efforts and Closing Remarks
16:00	Group Photo and Farewell