



Savvy Social Media Influencer Strikes for Our Future

David Wicker, Fridays For Future Italy
Italy

☀ Call to Action

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Fridays for Future's website:

www.fridaysforfutureitalia.it/

☀ Values

- Dedication
- Commitment
- Creativity
- Communication
- Environmentalism

☀ Lessons Learned

Keep fighting for what you believe in.

If you're tired, rest, and go back to the fight refreshed.

Climate change affects everyone, which is why we need everyone's input to tackle it. Listen to each other, regardless of age.

Fighting climate change needs to be a global effort. The only way to win the fight is by uniting and leaving politics aside.

David Wicker is an environmental activist fighting against climate change on the European front.

At age 14, he became an organizer with the Fridays for Future (FFF) movement, and currently leads the activist group's efforts in Turin, Italy. Fridays For Future is a school strike movement that is asking governments around the world to place the climate change issue as their top priority – particularly as it relates to respecting the Paris treaty and the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. David, along with thousands of other students in, was motivated by the likes of Greta Thunberg, Luisa Neubauer, and Vanessa Nakate to join in this movement.

As a talented computer programmer, David is working on innovative ways to streamline messaging and communications. By integrating people onto more responsive and younger community-based platforms, he hopes to expand the reach of FFF's message around the globe.

☀ Language Arts

Create a presentation about northern Italy in which you show the impact climate change has had on the region.

How has climate change affected the economy, the culture, the health of the population, and the ecosystem of northern Italy?

One of the challenges northern Italy is facing because of climate change is a decrease in the availability of drinking water. This is a problem that is likely to threaten the whole world in the future. Design a series of digital posters in which you describe the issue of drinking water, the dangers that arise from not having enough, and some possible solutions to the problem.

In your opinion, what is the best way to teach young people about climate change? Italy was the first country in the world to make Climate Change education mandatory in schools, but

there has been trouble implementing it because of budgetary issues. Working in groups, create a syllabus for an imaginary required course on climate change for people in the same grade as you, and a viable way to implement this program in your city (be sure to say how it could be paid for). Then, individually, have each person write a short essay explaining your choices.

Based on the previous activity, break up into groups and prepare a debate between students in which you discuss the pros and cons of implementing this (imaginary required) class, and the pros and cons of the proposed methods of obtaining funds to implement it.

STEM Activities

In this activity from [Safewater.org](https://www.safewater.org/)¹, research and evaluate five different water treatment processes, and identify the effectiveness, practicality, and applicability of each one. Then examine other methods that influence water quality and treatment methods, including education, funding, policy, and rights.

Using this set of [activities and resources from PBS](#)², learn about the impacts of drought through news videos of communities that are facing serious water shortages; analyze drought data and models from NOAA; and research and evaluate potential solutions to the problem of water shortages.

Design an application (web, desktop, or mobile-based) that can help combat climate change, such as an app that collects some type of data, facilitates communication, or shares knowledge of different types of climate change-related issues. As an extension activity, take your design and build it!

Sustainability Innovations

David has had the unique opportunity to begin his sustainability journey at a young age after witnessing climate change and its effects on his community. The students from Fridays for Future Italy have a similar opportunity to make an impact based on the changes they see in their community. Review [Fridays for Future Italia](#)³ and compare their events and campaigns to Fridays for Future USA. How can these two movements collaborate and learn from each other's actions?

In addition to young activists, organizations such as Sustainable Development Foundation Italy are vital to the success of addressing climate change. [Fondazione Per Lo Sviluppo Sostenibile](#)⁴ has made continuous strides toward a more sustainable future by participating in activities addressing campaigns, politics, a circular economy, and green infrastructure.

Climate organizations and activists have been at the forefront of the climate change movement, but it will take the efforts of both government and companies to continue to make these changes a reality. [Carbon Sink](#)⁵ is a consultancy company that focuses on sustainability strategies and compensation for CO2 emissions in Italy.

[Slow Food](#)⁶, which was founded in Italy, is an exciting sustainable agriculture innovation, focused on preventing the disappearance of local food cultures and traditions, counteracting the rise of “fast living,” and combating people’s dwindling interest in the quality of the food they eat. It’s now in 1600 communities, and is working to ensure that everyone has access to good, clean, and fair food.

Sustainability Career Pathways

Social Media Manager. Building a movement online now requires the effective use of social media. Many organizations hire a

full-time social media manager to manage their “brand” across a variety of platforms. Good writing, social media, and communication skills are essential. If you’re interested in learning more about social media management, check out this [introduction](#)². Here are [key skills you’ll need to thrive in this field](#)⁸.

Assisting the Elderly. As David notes, older people are more susceptible to the effects of climate change, as well as other societal challenges. There are many ways one can help the elderly live healthy, sustainable lives. Here is an [introduction to working with the elderly](#)⁹, from nursing and social work to continuing education, and even ways to [help them to join in the climate fight](#)¹⁰.

Translator. In this [video](#)¹¹, you can see David translating for three global climate activists. Translating is both an asset in global movements, and a good way to make a living. This is a skill that can be used in international governance, conferences, publishing, medicine, activism, refugee centers, and in many other contexts. If you love languages and want to learn about becoming a translator, read [this seven-step guide](#)¹².

1 <https://www.safewater.org/>

2 <https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/climate-change-impacts-and-solutions/>

3 <https://fridaysforfutureitalia.it/portavoce/>

4 <https://www.fondazionevilupposostenibile.org/english/>

5 <https://www.carbonsink.it/en/news/the-made-green-in-italy-brand>

6 <https://www.slowfood.com/>

7 <https://www.mediabistro.com/climb-the-ladder/skills-expertise/what-does-a-social-media-manager-do/>

8 <https://sproutsocial.com/insights/social-media-skills/>

9 <https://www.publicservicedegrees.org/careers/working-with-the-elderly/>

10 <https://www.eldersclimateaction.org/>

11 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZAkHXEODD7c>

12 <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/how-to-become-a-translator/>

