



# Hope Springs From The Land Down Under

Jean Hinchliffe, School Strike 4 Climate  
Australia

## ☀ Call to Action

Support School Strike 4 Climate  
in Australia [www.schoolstrike4climate.com](http://www.schoolstrike4climate.com)

Follow Jean on Twitter @jean\_hinchliffe

## ☀ Values

- Leadership
- Commitment
- Determination
- Environmentalism

## ☀ Lessons Learned

**True warriors for justice will tackle injustice wherever they find it.**

**Make sure your voice is heard, even if it means defying conventional wisdom and those in power.**

**The only tool to achieve real change is education.** A real education is the product of passion and commitment; so be passionate and committed!

**Jean Hinchliffe is a 15-year-old climate change activist leading the youth movement in Australia on many fronts.**

She first made an impact at age 13, when working with the Vote Yes campaign, which won the fight for marriage equality in Australia. She is also a vocal supporter of the #StopAdani movement, which aims to stop the construction of the largest coal mine in the country. In 2018, Jean organized the national School Strike 4 Climate, to bring awareness to our current climate emergency. On March 15, 2019, the movement had more than 300,000 students and adults participating across Australia.

## ☀ Language Arts

**Write a research essay on Australia's ecosystems and climate change:** What makes Australian ecosystems unique? How has climate change affected Australia? What can be done to reverse the damage?

**After reading Jean's story, highlight the main ideas in the story.** Select two of these main ideas and develop them in a series of TikTok videos, in which you explore how these ideas may affect your community.

**Write a blog post in which you respond to an imaginary politician who believes that young women should only worry about academics and not get involved in activism.**

What would you say to this person to change his mind and make him see that young women have as much a right to their opinions as everyone else, and the same responsibility to express them?

## STEM Activities

**In this activity from [CoolAustralia.org](https://www.coolaustralia.org)<sup>1</sup>, students explore the positive and negative impacts of climate change on biodiversity.** Working in groups, they investigate the impacts on five animals – the Yellow-Footed Rock-Wallaby, the Giant Gippsland Earthworm, the Common Clownfish, the Southern Corroboree Frog, and Regent Honeyeaters.

**In this activity, students will visit [Mt. Resilience](#)<sup>2</sup>** – an augmented reality experience that allows students to explore and analyze a town that’s been designed around climate change and disaster preparedness. The [app](#)<sup>3</sup> works on both phones and tablets.

**Research and explore bushfires in Australia.** What causes bushfires? What impact do they have on the community and the environment? Design an [interactive map](#)<sup>4</sup> that highlights some of Australia’s most dangerous bushfires. Examples of interactive resources you can use include small 3D images, flaps, questions, multimedia resources, and animation.

## Sustainability Innovations

**How can you get involved in [Schools Strike 4 Climate](#)<sup>5</sup>?** Review their website and their Instagram account. How can you assist Jean’s campaign from the U.S.?

**In addition to Schools Strike 4 Climate, there is a separate website, [#StopAdani](#)<sup>6</sup>,** that highlights five ways that everyone can get involved to stop the Adani coal mine. How can you assist this cause?

**In order to reach Australia’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), public awareness of the issues is necessary, and organizations must find ways to collaborate.** [Act on Climate](#)<sup>7</sup> highlights the NGOs in Australia that share the core values of sustainability and adaptation to climate change. How could Schools Strike 4 Climate partner with one of these NGOs? Working together, what could they do to achieve progress toward these goals?

## Sustainability Career Pathways

**Actor.** At 15, Jean has already starred in a TV show (The Unlisted). While it’s a difficult profession to enter, actors can use the projects they participate in and their celebrity to encourage others to live more sustainably. Want to become an actor? [Start here](#)<sup>8</sup>.

**Firefighter.** Climate change is going to increase the profusion of fires in the years to come. Thus the world will need more firefighters--both urban firefighters, and those who specialize in protecting forests and wilderness areas. Here’s an [introduction to the field](#)<sup>9</sup>, and a [10-step list on how to follow this path](#)<sup>10</sup>.

**Ecological Restoration.** One of the best ways to limit the local effects of climate change is to heal local ecosystems whether wetlands, lakes, forests, or others. The field of [ecological restoration](#)<sup>11</sup> focuses on this area, with restoration ecologists, field technicians, and others working together to “rewild” degraded areas. Learn more about opportunities in this field [here](#)<sup>12</sup>.

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- 1 <https://www.coolaustralia.org/activity/climate-change-and-biodiversity-in-australia/>
  - 2 <https://www.abc.net.au/cm/lb/12802478/data/mt-resilience-ar-app-%25E2%2580%2593-teacher-resource-%28pdf%29-data.pdf>
  - 3 <https://www.mtresilience.com>
  - 4 [https://www.schools.aidr.org.au/media/4647/00\\_lessonplan\\_bushfires\\_231017.pdf](https://www.schools.aidr.org.au/media/4647/00_lessonplan_bushfires_231017.pdf)
  - 5 <https://www.schoolstrike4climate.com/>
  - 6 <https://www.stopadani.com/>
  - 7 <https://www.aoc.org.au/australia-ngos>
  - 8 <https://www.careersinfilm.com/actor/>
  - 9 <https://collegegrad.com/careers/firefighters>
  - 10 <https://www.firerescue1.com/career-1/articles/becoming-a-firefighter-10-must-do-things-wmOqMRqBfm8Jflg/>
  - 11 <https://www.ser-rrc.org/what-is-ecological-restoration/>
  - 12 <https://www.ser-rrc.org/what-is-ecological-restoration/>

