

TALKING ECOLOGICAL



What is it like to live in an ecologically-sustainable world? What would the economy be like? What would it feel like to walk around in such a world? What about other benefits like health, wellbeing and community? Is a sustainable future a better place to be?

Ponder these questions and more with *Talking ecoLogical*, a set of 40 cards that can be used by anyone wanting to open up reflection and conversations about environmental sustainability. These groundbreaking cards can be used for team building, goal setting and planning, research and organisational change, personal reflection and so much more! Use them to explore the elements of your identity, contemplate the future, the challenges we face and the processes of change—and not just sustainable change, but change of all kinds within our communities, clubs, businesses, families and organisations.

Talking ecoLogical is ideal for introducing the theme of sustainability directly—and indirectly—into many activities and settings already familiar to you.

Looking for an icebreaker? Try **Under the Chair...**

- Place a card under or on each chair as people arrive. Invite each person to find their card and spend a minute reading it. Ask them to form pairs with someone sitting nearby, and introduce themselves using the card and this question: 'What does your card mean to you, your community or your organisation?'

Imagining the Future

Inspire your students, colleagues or family members to dream big about what our society could become. *Talking ecoLogical* provides excellent fuel for the sustainability journey!

Invite everyone to choose an 'Imagining the Future' card that excites or inspires them. Invite them to find a partner and have a conversation about that future using such questions as:

- What is close to your heart?
- Let's leave the impossible talk behind today and imagine ourselves there. What does the future look and feel like?
- Is it better than today? Why?
- Does it excite you?
- What changes will have been made?

Belonging to Place

Our sense of identity, our health and the health of the environment are intimately interconnected. Using only the 'Elements of Identity' cards, invite people to think about how we see ourselves and our place on earth. No small ask!

Ask participants to choose a card and think about its meaning for a few minutes. Now, invite participants to spend five minutes in small groups or pairs discussing the meaning of the card in their lives and work, using questions such as:

- How might this understanding change the way we live/work?
- How might this understanding change what we do at work?
- How might this understanding change how we see ourselves at work?
- Does the card represent an inspiring notion or a scary challenge to you?

Each person then has five minutes to develop a one-minute presentation to the group about their card and its meaning for them, both professionally and personally.

Sustainability Assessment

Use *Talking ecoLogical* to assess environmental impacts and begin developing an organisational action plan or environmental management system.

Select 'The Challenge' cards and invite participants to form small groups. Ask each group to choose one of the cards to discuss, think through and brainstorm, using questions such as:

- What impacts do we as an organisation have on the earth that relate to this challenge?
- Can we create a list of our impacts relating to this challenge?
- What challenges must we overcome to minimise, and then remove, our environmental impact in relation to this topic?

The group's findings can be recorded and used to research, cost and determine which projects to work on, giving consideration to such things as when, how and who.

Many of us have changed the light bulbs, but we haven't yet changed our vision of the future. We invite you to use this most innovative and timely of conversation-building tools to seek inspiration in the urgency of our challenges AND in the beauty of your dreams.

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Innovative Resources
62 Collins Street, Kangaroo Flat
Victoria 3555 Australia

e: info@innovativeresources.org
w: innovativeresources.org

