

Team Name: Zaria Gibbs, Helena Landers, Penelope O'Neal (The Green Needle Project)

Teacher Name: Mrs. Carmichael & Mr. Showalter

Green Heart Action Plan

Problem Definition/ Problem Statement

An important problem to address in Georgia is fast fashion waste in landfills and dumps. Fast fashion makes up almost 10% of emissions (Spears and Baca) and only 1% of all clothes are recycled (Science for Georgia). In an effort to make the world a more sustainable and equitable place, we hope to lower the negative impact of fast fashion on the community.

Root Cause of the Problem

When clothes lose favor or go out of trend, people donate them or throw them away in an attempt to stay fashionable, or "Up on trends." Oftentimes these clothes end up in dumps or other beaches and parts of the world.

List at Least Three Credible Resources that Support Your Problem Statement

AST: Are My Clothes Killing Me? Accessed Feb 26th 2025 <https://scienceforgeorgia.org/knowledge-base1/ast-science-of-textiles/>
"Fast- Fashion" And the Internet Accessed Feb 26th 2025
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/719cf77718f045dc8d051bb59c7de364>
Where does the UK's fast fashion end up? Accessed Feb 26th 2025
<https://www.theguardian.com/fashion/2024/sep/24/where-does-the-uks-fast-fashion-end-up-i-found-out-on-a-beach-clean-in-ghana>

Proposed Solution

We're going to connect with local sewing businesses about using old clothes to teach others to repair them or make the clothes/scrap into something new. If they agree, we will help with advertising to either local communities or our school depending on the business(s) and how many donations they can take. Additionally, to spread awareness we can work with or do something similar to Repair Cafe where we hold an event for either the public or our school to teach them about the waste the textile industry creates and how to reuse old clothes.

How We Will Measure Our Success

We can measure our success by how many people we inform and successfully educate on textile waste. Our success can also be measured by how many people begin to learn to sew using old clothing or transfer to donating their clothing to these businesses and groups.

Who are Decision Makers We Need to Reach

Leaders of local sewing businesses and the people who live around them.



Our 3-5 Step Plan for Change

1. Contact business owners and plan what the programs and donations would look like
2. Planning what classes would look like & where we get the clothes
3. Inform the public or school (THS) about the negative impacts of donating clothes and advertise sewing classes that would repurpose clothing depending on the business/scale we can work with

Impact & Equity

By educating people of the community, and allowing them to take initiative in their community, the impact of this project is that even someone who has never sewn before, or has never been a part of environmental efforts can be a part of aiding the community.

What Help We Need to Be Successful

Business owners of sewing places (ex. Cool People Sew, Topstitch)
Repair Cafe (possibly to hold an event teaching others how to repair old clothing)

