

## Interview training for young researchers on the Young People at a Crossroads project

### Before the training

1. **Think about who within your family you would like to interview.** This should be a family member that you live with and who was born in a different country to where you live now. It could be both parents or just one, and you can decide if you want to interview parents together or separately.
2. **Think about your questions.** We have prepared **five questions to start you off** in planning your interview/s. These are included below, and we will talk about these more in the interview training sessions. We suggest you come up with **between 5 and 10 additional questions for your parent/s**. We have listed some possible topics at the end of this sheet, but remember this is your interview, so think about what YOU want to ask. You can also think if there any relevant topics that have come up in conversation recently that you could build into your interview, e.g. *'I was thinking about this time when we were doing X and you said Y. Can you tell me more'*?
3. **Think about what it will be like to interview your parents**
  - a. How will you introduce the interview so that parents know they don't have to talk about anything that is upsetting or difficult?
  - b. Are there any objects that might get your parents talking – e.g. a photo or special object?
  - c. It is good to go into an interview with passion and curiosity because interest motivates people to share stories. Explain to your parents why you want to know what you want to know.
  - d. Keep in mind that the some of the things you talk about in the interview could be things you chose to write about in the project book

We will talk about all of these things some more in the interview training :)

**Five questions to start you off** (please ask your parent/s these questions in your interview/s, but feel free to reword them to make it sound more like you)

- What do you remember doing in your everyday life as a family to look after the environment when you were growing up, and how do you think these things were shaped by your environment and by cultural norms/ideas?
- How did you learn about British/Australian **[delete as appropriate]** cultural norms/ideas about looking after the environment when you first moved to the UK/Australia?  
**Follow up questions:** Was there anything you found confusing? How do you feel about this now?
- When you were growing up, were there any environmental challenges or difficulties you faced as a family (e.g. to do with the weather, accessing everyday resources, environmental hazards) and how did you adapt to these?
- Have these experiences of adapting to environmental challenges growing up made a difference to how you have brought up your children? **Note:** As this question is partly about you, you can also respond to what your parent says here! As we will discuss in the research training, an interview is a conversation :)

- What do you think people in the UK/Australia can learn from people living in the country you grew up to look after the environment better? And is there anything that people in the country where you grew up could learn from people in the UK/Australia?

#### **Other possible interview topics for parents**

- What it was like growing up in the country where they were born
- How they accessed and used resources and how this was shaped by the culture and the environment they lived in
- What they remember most vividly about the place or places they grew up
- How community members talked about and understood environmental challenges – e.g. was this just part of normal life? Did anyone use terms like ‘global warming’ or ‘climate change’?
- How they think their childhood was different to your childhood
- If climate or environment had anything to do with them choosing to move countries
- What they found different when they first arrived to the UK/Australia
- What they miss most and least about the place/s where they grew up
- What their household routines/practices are like now and how these are different to what they did growing up
- If there is anything they still do now that they can trace to things they did growing up (e.g. saving water)
- If /how they think climate change is affecting or could affect the country where they grew up
- The first time they remember hearing the term ‘climate change’.