Public Engagment with Blue Carbon Research

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In what ways can public knowledge of, and engagement with, blue carbon research (specifically on the importance of saltmarshes in the fight against climate change) be increased?

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Blue carbon and climate change:

- **Saltmarshes** are an abundant blue carbon habitat within Scotland
- They act as **nature-based solutions (NbS) to climate change**, by removing carbon dioxide from the air and thus **mitigating the extent of global warming**
- **NbS fits with** the Scottish **governments** nature-focused **appraoch to COP26** **(1,3,5)**

Public engagement and policymaking:

- **Youth education** is a **recognisably important method of public engagement**, as highlighted by Article 6 of the Paris Agreement
- **Public engagement influences** the success of **climate change policies,** as informed citizens are more likely to care for, and support, legislation **(2,4,6)**

Methods of generating public engagement:

Main considerations in design -
1) interactive 2) accessible 3) positive

1. Educational infographics

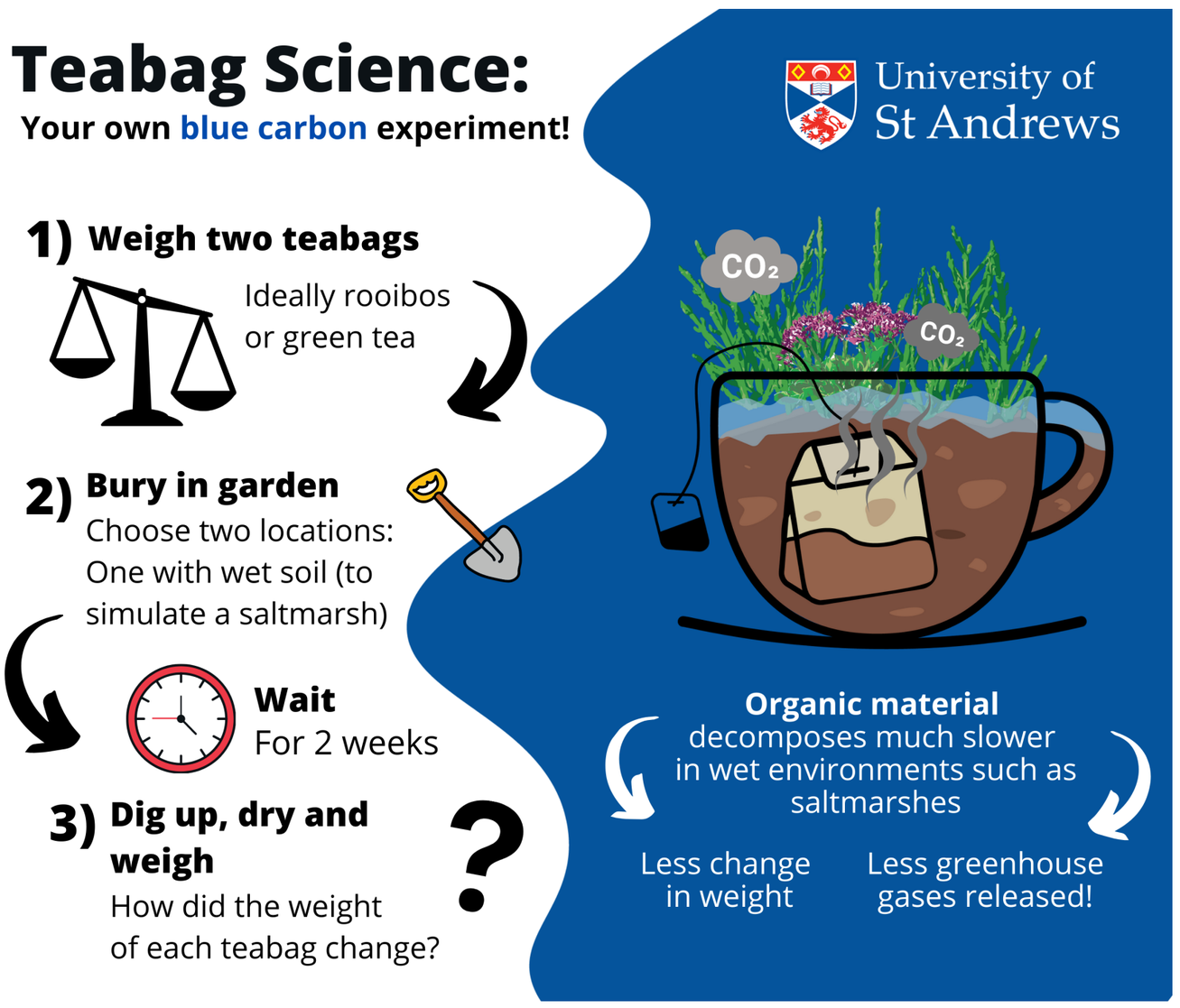
2. At-home science experiments

3. Interactive online workshop

4. Blue carbon audio-guided walking route

On-going project with the Falkirk Council

Success: The creation of a variety of educational tools, fitting different learning styles, with long-term digital legacy



Future work: Reflecting on user experience, to evaluate impact of the material

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