Education for the Future

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What are the GHG Emissions from these sectors: Transport, Energy, Industry, Food, Buildings and Other?

As per Stern Report
Do schools need to educate children about Food and Farming?
Food and Health in the United States

33% of Americans are obese or overweight

42% of Americans are afflicted with cancer at some point in their lives

Over 30% of Americans are ill with diabetes or heart disease
All these are avoidable life-style diseases according to many doctors and researchers…

- *Diseases caused largely by junk foods, excessive meat and dairy products and wrong food habits.*

**References:**

- Michael Pollan: *In Defence of Food*
- Dr. Caldwell Esselstyn: *Reverse Hypertension*
- Dr. Marion Nestle: *Food Politics*
- Dr. Neal Barnard: *The Reverse Diabetes Diet*
Do we need to educate our children about good food habits?

Do we need to educate schools about what foods to serve in school canteens and dining rooms?
The foods that are good for our health are also good for sustainability!

We have the Cuba example as demonstrated proof that Organic plant based foods are sustainable and healthful...
Schools around the world respond…

Over 5000 schools in the UK have hands-on organic gardening as part of the curriculum.

Many schools in the US as well as Europe are waking up to the importance of organic gardening and eco-literacy.
In India, the Urban population is said to increase to over 50% within a decade…

Don’t we need education suitable for the rural community in rural areas, which includes farming, rural crafts and intermediate technology?
Another solution proposed by many to climate change is **Localisation**.

Cutting-edge thinkers in education have suggested **Place-based education** and **Education for the preservation of the Commons**.
Again what is good for ecological sanity will be good for children’s well-being as well…

Children deprived of Nature experiences are said to suffer from Nature-Deficit Disorder (Paul)
What are the dangers of education?
- David Orr

1) Formal education will cause students to worry about how to make a living before they know who they are.
2) It will render students narrow technicians who are morally sterile
3) It will deaden their sense of wonder for the created world

It is not half so important to Know as to Feel
We are still educating the young as if there were no planetary emergency
David Orr: *Earth in Mind*

“Those now being educated will have to do what we, the present generation have been unable or unwilling to do:

> stabilise world population
> stabilise and then reduce GHG emissions
> protect biological diversity
> reverse the destruction of forests
> conserve soils
> learn how to use energy and materials with great efficiency
> utilise solar energy in all its forms
> rebuild economies that eliminate waste and pollution
Future Generations must...

> begin the great work of repairing the damage done to the world in the past few hundred years of industrialisation

> and they must do all of this while they reduce worsening social, economic and racial inequalities
No generation has ever faced a more daunting agenda!