

Influencing Cards

These are influencing cards.
Each card represents one way,
with which you can influence.
The method of influence is written
on the top edge of the card.

In the picture you can see the influencer
i.e. the person who wants to influence something.
Each person represents one way to influence.
Below the picture is the name of the influencer.

On the other side of the card you can find
information about the way to influence.
At the end of the text there are examples of
how you can use this means of influencing.

The text in the cards often mentions "topic".
It means the topic you want to influence.
The topic can be for example children's rights.
You chose the topic before the workshop
or at the beginning of the workshop.

**You choose your
way to influence**



Wendy has an idea.

Wendy Wildcard

You choose your way to influence

There are many ways to influence!
Can you think of a way to influence,
which is not mentioned in other cards?

When you choose this card,
you can come up with a way to influence yourself.
You can also come up with examples
that fit the topic.

Shopping decisions



Valtér is coming back from the grocery store

Valtér Vegan

Fundraising and donating



Frank is donating clothes

Frank Fundraiser

Fundraising and donating

You can fundraise money for example for non-governmental organisations. These organisations have an important role in the civil societies. NGOs will use the money for a good cause. You can combine fundraising with other ways to influence.

Examples of influencing:

- Participate in Taksvärkki fundraising.
- Sell products together with a hobby group. You can sell cookies or candies for example.
- Set up a café at school for one day.
- Make DIY products, for example decorations.
 - Sell the products.
 - Donate the money to a good cause.

Shopping decisions

If people buy a lot of a product, the company makes a lot of it. Manufacturing some products harms the environment and people.

If you do not buy such products, companies will make fewer of them. This way you can improve the well-being of people and nature.

Examples of influencing:

- Think about whether you really need the product.
- Buy responsible products.
 - For example, the Fair Trade label means that a product is responsible. The label has black, blue and green on it.
- Buy used goods, for example at a flea market.
- Borrow or rent items.
- Buy vegetarian food.

Lobbying



Laila sends a letter to decision makers

Laila Lobbyist

Having conversations and sharing information



Cora talks to her friend about environmental protection.

Cora Conversationalist

Having conversations and sharing information

When you speak with people,
you can share information with them.
You can speak to friends or family members.
You can also share information on social media.
This way others can learn something new.
Their opinions and actions can change.

Remember, however,
that listening to others is important.
When you listen to others,
you can also learn something new.
Remember to respect other people's opinions
when you share your own.

Examples of influencing:

- Write a post on social media.
- Speak with other people.
- Share about a topic in your school's morning assembly.
- Write about your opinions in newspapers or online.

Lobbying

Lobbying means that you contact decision makers. The decision maker can be for example a politician or leader.

You can write a message for a decision maker. Perhaps you can also call a decision maker. You can also ask the decision maker to meet you somewhere.

Here are some examples how you can influence by lobbying:

- Tell the school principal about a problem.
- Ask someone you know to share your message on social media.
- Send a politician an email or communicate on social media.

Self-compassion and kindness



Halima carries her friend's groceries

Halima Helpful

Reading



River reads a book about activism

River Reader

Reading

When you read books for example, you get new information and learn more about things.

You can also read news and studies.

It is important to understand the topic that you want to influence.

When you know a lot about something, you can influence it more effectively.

Remember to make sure that you are reading reliable information.

Check the source of the information.

Read different kinds of texts so you get diverse information.

Examples of influencing:

- Follow the news.
- Read books about topics you want to influence.
- Study history. When you know the past, you can better understand the present.
- Follow experts on social media.

Self-compassion and kindness

Self-compassion means
that you are compassionate towards yourself.
When you treat yourself well
you have more strength
to influence things important to you.
When you are kind to other people
you help them to feel better too.
You also have the right
for others to treat you with respect.

Examples of influencing:

- Live a healthy life.
- Rest and participate in hobbies.
- Be kind to others.
- Take care of your own wellbeing.
- Help others.

Writing and signing petitions and initiatives



Sally signs a citizen's initiative

Sally Signer

Voting



Daniel votes in the elections

Daniel Democracy

Voting

Voters influence who decides about common issues. You can vote for someone in elections who promises to advance things that are important to you. In that way you influence so that those things can happen. In many elections you can only vote once you turn 18. However, there are elections where young people can vote.

Examples of influencing when you are under 18:

- Vote in student council elections.
- Vote on decisions in class or hobbies.
- Vote in youth council elections.
- If you belong to the church, you can vote in parish elections. You need to be over 16.

When you are over 18, you can also vote in municipal and parliamentary elections.

Writing and signing petitions and initiatives

A petition is a complaint or request that citizens send to decision makers.

An initiative is a political proposal that citizens make.

A municipal initiative is an initiative for a city or municipality.

A citizen's initiative is an initiative for the parliament.

Decision makers process the initiative if enough citizens sign it.

Signing a petition or initiative is an easy way to influence.

You can share petitions or initiatives on social media.

You can also write your own initiative or petition.

Then ask people to sign the initiative or petition.

Examples of influencing:

- If you are under 18, you can sign a municipal initiative. You can also make your own municipal initiative.
- If you are over 18, you can sign a citizen's initiative. You can also make your own citizen's initiative.

Representation



Rachel holds a speech for the student council

Rachel Representative

Training and courses



Leroy is going to school

Leroy Learner

Training and courses

When you participate in different trainings and courses, you learn more about a topic.

You also get new perspectives on the topic.

When you learn more about a topic, it will be easier to influence it.

Then you can talk about the topic with others.

You will learn to understand who has power to influence the topic.

You can also learn new things about the history of the topic.

In trainings you will also meet other young people who are interested in the topic.

Examples of influencing:

- Choose a course at school where you can learn more about a topic.
- Participate in workshops at school.
- Participate in a training or course organized by an organization.
- Participate in a course that is organized by a community college or an education center.

Representation

When representing, members of a certain group make sure that the group's affairs are handled fairly.

For example trade unions defend the interests of workers.

In the activities of a union or organization you get to influence the group's common interest.

Examples of influence:

- Participate in student council.
- Participate in youth council activities.
- Make a proposal to the youth council or a youth organization. The council or organization will influence the matter on your behalf.

Campaigning on social media



Christine creates a social media campaign

Christine Campaigner

Organizing and participating in events



Padati is protesting against climate change.

Padati Protestor

Organizing and participating in events

In events you can express your opinion about a topic. You can also meet other people who are interested in a topic. You can have a conversation with them. If other people join the event it can affect their thoughts and decisions.

Examples about influencing:

- Participate in discussion events.
- Go to a fair.
- Participate in a protest.
- Take part in a strike.
- Go to a concert that is raising money for charity.

You can also organize an event yourself. Ask others to join you in organizing.

Campaigning on social media

Social media is an effective way to influence. When you organize an interesting social media campaign the topic can get many people's attention. You can also participate in a social media campaign that someone else is organizing.

An effective social media campaign arouses feelings and thoughts. With campaigns other people will also learn about a topic. Campaigns can also challenge other people to influence a topic.

Examples of influencing:

- Host an Instagram live or a livestream.
- Make a podcast that others can listen to.
- Share information on TikTok.

Environmental action



Elif recycles the trash

Elif Environmentalist

Art that takes a stand



Rosemary performs her own music

Rosemary Rapper

Art that takes a stand

When you make art
you can influence topics important to you!
Impressive art arouses
the interest of its watcher or listener.
Through art you can also share information
about a topic.
In art you can also tell stories.
Also you can suggest solutions to problems
that are related to the topic.

Art also helps the artist and audience
to deal with emotions such as climate anxiety.
Climate anxiety means anxiety
that is caused by the dangers of climate change.

Examples of influencing:

- Write a poem.
- Make a work of art, for example a painting.
- Write music.
- Draw a comic.
- Write a play.

Environmental action

Environmental action aims to keep nature clean. When you participate in environmental action, you prevent environmental pollution. At the same time you help slow climate change.

Examples of influence:

- Use electrical devices that consume a lot of electricity wisely.
- Recycle items and garbage.
- Buy used goods.
- Travel by bicycle or public transport.
- Avoid flying.
- Eat vegetarian food.
- Organize an event where you collect trash from nature together.

Following experts and social media influencers



Fadi follows many accounts on social media

Fadi Follower

Volunteering



Viljami is picking up trash

Viljami Volunteer

Volunteering

Volunteering is work you don't get paid for.

By volunteering you influence a topic in a very practical way.

A variety of volunteering work is available for young people.

You can volunteer, for example, in an organization.

When you contact an organization, an employee will tell you about volunteering.

Examples of influencing:

- Join the Taksvärkki Challengers group. It is a group for young people between 13-18, who are interested in influencing.

Following experts and social media influencers

Many experts and social media influencers share useful information online.

When you follow experts and social media influencers you learn more about topics.

Then it is easier for you to influence the topic.

Remember, however, to check where the information is from.

It is also worth it to follow many different influencers.

Follow representatives of minorities.

Also follow people from different countries.

Examples of influencing:

- Follow activists.
- Follow influencers who live in different parts of the world.
- Watch and listen to interviews. You can find them for example on tv or on the radio.