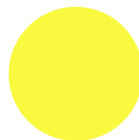
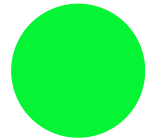




With For About: Care and the Commons

Glossary



This glossary is intended as a playful and open-ended tool for conversation.

The words and definitions included have been crowdsourced with artists, practitioners and researchers contributing to With For About: Care and the Commons. Words included here may or may not be used within the context of the gathering.

You may have different definitions and usages of these words and meanings. Please feel free to challenge, question, edit and play with these words as a method of linguistic resistance.

You are invited to use this glossary as you wish. Please scribble, stick, cut, paste, and edit this booklet.

One way you could test how you feel about certain words and their contested definitions is by giving them a colour or a 'temperature' (i.e. hot, cold, lukewarm).

There are a couple of pages left blank at the end of the booklet for your to let your mind wander or add your own words and definitions.

Anthropocene

The Anthropocene Epoch is an unofficial unit of geologic time, used to describe the most recent period in Earth's history when human activity started to have a significant impact on the planet's climate and ecosystems.

(National Geographic, N.D).

The Commons

Land or resources belonging to or affecting the whole of a community.

See the work of Elinor Ostrom:

Ostrom, E. (2012). *The Future of the Commons: Beyond Market Failure and Government Regulation*. United Kingdom: Institute of Economic Affairs.

Care

For Joan Tronto and Berenice Fisher, care is everything that we do to 'maintain, continue, and repair "our world" so that we may live in it as well as possible' (Tronto & Fisher, 1990).

Contemporary feminists have updated this definition to include 'relations [that] maintain and repair a world so that humans and non-humans can live in it as well as possible in a complex life-sustaining web' (Puig de La Bellacasa, 2017).

See the work of:

Tronto, J. C., & Fisher, B. (1990). Toward a Feminist Theory of Caring. In E. Abel, & M. Nelson (Eds.), *Circles of Care* (pp. 36-54). SUNY Press.

Puig de la Bellacasa, M. (2017). *Matters of Care: Speculative Ethics in More Than Human Worlds*. United States: University of Minnesota Press.

Pirate Care. (No date). [syllabus.pirate.care](#)

Climate Justice

Climate justice recognises the climate crisis as a social and political problem, as well as an environmental one. It acknowledges that different communities feel the effects of the climate crisis differently and that the responsibility for the crisis rests with some countries and companies more than others.

Climate justice understands that the lives of those already facing injustice and oppression are made harder by the impacts of the climate crisis. It is about recognising the interconnectedness of struggles and, in doing so, fighting for solutions to the climate crisis that not only reduce emissions but create a fairer and more just world in the process.

(Friends of the Earth, 2022.
[groups.friendsoftheearth.uk/resources/
whats-climate-justice](https://groups.friendsoftheearth.uk/resources/whats-climate-justice))

Debris

Cultural matter that has been discarded near, mislaid in or donated to the commons and is now available for reinvention.

Deep Hanging Out

An anthropological and social science research method of immersing oneself in a culture, group, or social experience on an informal level. Literally, hanging out for prolonged periods of time in spaces and places to better, and more deeply, understand place, ecologies of place, and social dynamics and experiences.

Degrowth

A planned reduction of energy and resource use designed to bring the economy back into balance with the living world in a way that reduces inequality and improves planetary well-being.

Digestion

Allowing organic processes to help something (food, action, speech, thought) settle in, break down, heal fully, become clearer, resolve itself.

Ecosystem

An interconnected ecological system of living and non-living things and entities existing within a shared physical environment or habitat. An ecological system will comprise of communities of animals, plants, micro-organisms, soils, decaying organic matter, and non-living matter such rocks and minerals.

Eco-critical

Relating to or involving analysis of how the natural world is portrayed in literature, typically in relation to modern environmental concerns.

Ecological grief

In inter-species care, the remit of grief doesn't limit to the loss of human/animal life. Ecological grief expands the acknowledgement of the loss towards the complexity of systematic destruction, damaged lands, rivers and broken communities. Holding public funerals over lost glaciers is one such example.

Enriching

(verb) Improving oneself in a deeply positive manner via an external media or event, like a meal, conversation or art exhibition.

Hyphen Space

The space that straddles and bolts together disciplines, for example, socio-ecological art and socio-ecological science. Research and action in this space has potential to hybridize approaches and outcomes to tackle 'wicked problems'.

Imperialism

Imperialism is defined as a doctrine, political strategy, practice, state policy, or advocacy that extends power by exerting political and economic control outward over other areas (usually a former colony).

Inter-species Care

Countering the hierarchical classification of species that justifies human domination and abuse of other species, different species are considered equally precious and deeply care for one another in understanding that all living beings, including the soil and rocks, are interdependent and interconnected in the ecosystem.

Interlocutor

(noun) someone who helps dialogue flow between multiple parties, a social lubricator and a point of contact for information.

Semai and Malay terms

Adat

Customs that are observed strictly and that have been practiced for generations. Adat is a way of maintaining the balance (between human and more-than-human beings) within a landscape through a set of ritualised actions. Failure to observe customs may cause illness or disasters.

Adat is also a way of remembering those who were there before them, respecting the mai serak, and also remembering their roles and responsibilities as they navigate their daily lives in the forest/landscape.

Gunik

The spirit guide to the tok halak. Their relationship is similar to a father and child. The gunik teaches the halak healing knowledge and aids the halak in the diagnosis and treatment of illness. When it appears in the dream, it could appear in various forms - for example, tiger, old man, Chinese woman, Pontianak (female vampire).

Mai Serak

Mai means person. Serak means jungle or tropical rain forest. Mai serak means people of the forest or forest dwellers, but refers to the spirit or more-than-human beings who look after or roam the forest.

Ruai

Translates to soul or spirit. Present in humans, plants, animals, mountains, all living and non-living beings in the landscape. Loss of ruai in a person causes illness.

Tok Halak

A shaman, a person with healing and medicinal knowledge, and the ability to communicate with the "spirit" or "immaterial" world. A halak is chosen by the gunik by appearing in the dreams of the chosen person.

Low Tech

(adj.) Finding creative solutions without modern technology, often with joyful difficulty, i.e. going the long way round to prove an alternative theory.

More-than-human

Living creatures and entities, other than humans.

Neocolonialism

Neocolonialism is the continuation or reimposition of imperialist rule by a state over another nominally independent state.

Ontological

Showing the relations between the concepts and categories in a subject area or domain.

Orang Asli

Translates to original people and refers to the indigenous people of Peninsular Malaysia, which consist of the three main groups (and the tribes in bracket) of: Semang/Negrito (Batek, Jahai, Kensiu, Kintak, Mendriq, Lanoh), Senoi (Mah Meri, Temiar, Semai, Semaq Beri, Chewong, Jah Hut), and Proto-Malay (Temuan, Orang Seletar, Temoq, Semelai, Jakun, Orang Kanak, Orang Kuala). They are the descendants of the earliest human inhabitants of the Malay Peninsula, and are culturally and linguistically distinct from one tribe to the other.

Permaculture Design

Permaculture design is a system of assembling conceptual, material, and strategic components in a pattern which functions to benefit life in all its forms.

See the work of: Mollison, B. C. (1988).
Permaculture: A Designers' Manual. Cocos
(Keeling) Islands: Tagari Publications.

Petromasculinity

A term coined by Cara Daggett (2018) - used to refer to an increased tendency among men to reject climate change concerns, and to attach some level of masculine value to that rejection.

Plantationocene

Plantationocene is the devastating transformation of diverse ecosystems into extractive enclosed plantations, relying on slave labour or other exploited labour, often migrants. It's a system of violence that puts profit over everyone/everything, with ever-greater ferocity in globalised industrial meat production, monoculture agribusiness, and immense substitutions of crops like palm oil and their products that sustain human and nonhuman critters alike.

Pluriverse

The world, considered as lacking uniformity, the world as a non-homogenous domain.

Postvention

Aftercare that protects against or seeks to prevent further harm.

Reciprocal

Something that is done or given mutually, or felt equally by both sides.

Regenerative

"A regenerative' mindset is one that sees the world as built around reciprocal and co-evolutionary relationships, where humans, other living beings and ecosystems rely on one another for health, and shape (and are shaped by) their connections with one another" (The Royal Society of Arts, 2021).

Socio-ecological arts practice

A hybrid art practice bridging together social and socially engaging art with ecological research and field work to enact ground-up social and environmental justice and change through processes of engagement, interventions, happenings, expositions, and action.

Speculative fiction

A category of fiction that, in its broadest sense, encompasses the genres that depart from reality, and can be used as a tool to imagine alternative ways of living.

Terra Communis

Latin term meaning common land. Land that no one owns or over which no state exercises sovereignty. Land that is theoretically available on equal terms for all to use.

Terra Nullius

Latin term. Land belonging to no one, which has been interpreted as a complete absence of people and of “civilised” people capable of land ownership. (Legal concept used by the British government to justify the settlement of Australia).

Traditional Ecological Knowledge

A cumulative body of wisdom, belief, and practices that are orally transmitted from generation to generation through folklore, songs, and simply children following their parents to hunt and gather. TEK is specific to an ecosystem or geography of an area that is inhabited by indigenous people, acquired over thousands of years through direct contact with the environment and embodies the relationship between people, plants, animals, landscapes, seasons, worldviews, cosmologies and more.

Transdisciplinary

The coming together of people with expertise and knowledge across disciplines, professions, sectors, communities, and lived experience to co-produce work. An individual with a transdisciplinary practice will straddle professions, disciplines and communities, they will know and have experience of, for example, being an artist, an activist, an anthropologist.

Vegetal

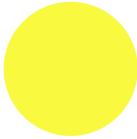
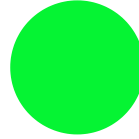
Relating to plants or vegetation, e.g. grass, trees, moss, shrubs and flowers.

Wicked Problems

Complex problems that are difficult, seemingly impossible, to solve and have no one solution, for example, climate justice and catastrophe.

An invitation -

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