

Geography – Climate change

Years Five and Six



climate zones

climate change

human impact

crisis

carbon footprint

causes

greenhouse gases

agriculture

energy

deforestation

effects

rising sea levels

coral reefs

droughts

biodiversity loss

climate change

green future

By the end of this unit, you will have an understanding of different climate zones. You will also be able to list some of the causes and effects of climate change. Furthermore, you will understand some of the ways, as individuals, we can reduce our impact on it.

Important information



learn about how we can reduce our carbon footprint to help beat it.

Prior knowledge

In our Shackleton and Antarctica topic, we touched on climate change and its causes and effects. In this unit of work, we will delve into the causes and effects of climate change and



Introduction to climate change

Earth is home to many millions of species of animals, plants and other organisms, as well as some amazing habitats. We are very lucky to live on such an incredible planet. However, our world is changing quickly and we are in the midst of a climate and biodiversity crisis.

Global warming is the long-term rise in temperatures across the world. The average surface temperature on Earth is 1.1°C higher than it was between 1850 and 1900 (when large-scale fossil fuel burning began). Causes of climate change include greenhouse gases, energy productions, agriculture, deforestation, transport, construction and mining.

As the climate has changed, Earth has become more prone to rising sea-levels, flooding, storms, droughts, heatwaves, wildfires and a loss in biodiversity and essential habitats like coral reefs.

How can we help? We can all incorporate small changes into our lives that can help reduce our impact on climate change. Changing what we eat and how we travel are just two ways to make a difference. In this term's topic, we will consider more ways to make a difference.

Many people are campaigning for both governments and individuals to take more actions to prevent climate change including children across the world. The most famous of these is Greta Thunberg but will learn more about these young ground-breakers. Could they be an inspiration to you too?

Geography – Climate change

Years Five and Six

By the end of this unit, you will have an understanding of different climate zones. You will also be able to list some of the causes and effects of climate change. Furthermore, you will understand some of the ways, as individuals, we can reduce our impact on it.

	Learning question	What you will learn	Learning Review
1	What are climate zones?	You will revisit climate zones and be able to name the key ones. You will look at a map and see if there are any patterns to climate zones. You will be able to give a definition to each climate zones and name some countries that fall into each one.	
2 & 3	What are the causes of climate change?	You will get a brief introduction to climate change. In groups, you will be given one area of climate change to research and create a PowerPoint about (greenhouse gases, energy production, agriculture, deforestation, transport, building construction or mining). Once completed, you will listen to your friends present the information that they researched about the different causes of climate change so your understanding grows.	
4	What are the effects of climate change?	You will be given an introduction to our climate in crisis. In pairs, you will prepare a report into one of the effects of climate change (rising sea levels, flooding, tropical storms, depletion of coral reefs, droughts, heatwaves, biodiversity loss, wildfires). You will be able to state one or two small changes we can make to help. The class will share their work so you have an understanding of each effect.	
5	How can we reduce climate change?	You will learn about 'carbon footprints' and be able to compare and contrast the footprints of countries around the world. You will be given a task relating to a particular area of our lives that contributes to our own personal carbon footprint (our food, our clothing, our homes, our 'stuff' and our travel). We will pool our ideas of the little changes we can make.	
6	Who are the child activists that are helping to campaign against climate change?	You will learn about eleven children from across the world who are passionate about climate action. You will pick one who inspires you the most and be able to explain why.	