

What Is Climate Change?



Our Earth

Our planet Earth is a unique place to live.

It has rivers, lakes, volcanoes, mountains, beaches and valleys. Nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of our Earth is covered by water.

It is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ billion years old!

It is the only planet in the solar system with lots of oxygen and water, to support life.

It meets our five basic needs to live:

1. Oxygen
2. Food
3. Water
4. Shelter
5. Warmth.

Fun Fact

Our **environment** is everything around us. It includes plants, animals and other humans, and the air that we breathe.

What Is a Climate?

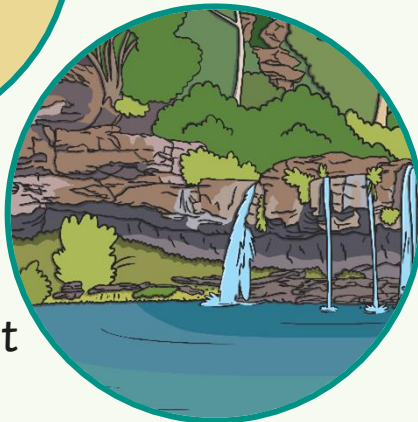
Our Earth has lots of different types of weather in lots of different countries. We call these weather types **climates**.



The Namib desert is hot and dry.

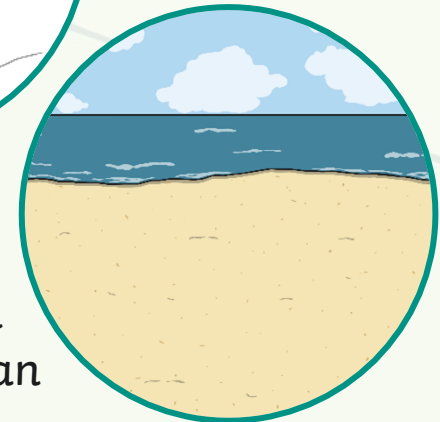


The Antarctic is very cold – it is the coldest place on Earth.



The Amazon rainforest is wet and hot.

The beaches in the Mediterranean are warm.



How Can a Climate Change?

One of the easiest ways to make a climate change is to cut down the trees. The people who cut down the trees are called loggers. They use chainsaws to cut down the trees. The trees are then used for many things, like paper and furniture. But when the trees are cut down, the land is left bare. This means that the soil is exposed to the sun and the wind. This can make the land dry and hot. The dry land can then catch fire, and the fire can spread to the nearby trees. This is called a forest fire. Forest fires can be very dangerous and can destroy many trees. This is why it is important to take care of the trees and not cut them down. Another way to make a climate change is to burn fossil fuels. Fossil fuels are things like coal, oil, and natural gas. When these are burned, they release a gas called carbon dioxide. This gas is called a greenhouse gas. It traps heat in the atmosphere, making the Earth warmer. This is called global warming. Global warming can cause the ice in the Arctic to melt, and the sea levels to rise. This can cause flooding in many areas. Global warming can also cause the weather to change, with more extreme weather events like hurricanes and droughts. This is why it is important to reduce the use of fossil fuels and to take care of the environment.



What Does Climate Change Mean for Us?

Global warming isn't good for our Earth. It means that ice is starting to melt in the Antarctic and this could cause floods in other parts of the world.



Rising sea levels mean that animals, such as turtles, will no longer have nesting beaches on which to lay their eggs. The temperature of the nests also affects whether the turtles will be male or female and if the temperature continues to rise, more females will be born than males, increasing the risk of turtles becoming extinct.



Fact

Developing countries will experience more droughts (low rainfall) which will affect their livelihood, if they are unable to grow the crops they need.

Climate Change Protests

Groups of young people all over the world are very unhappy about the changes in our climate.

They have written letters to important people, like politicians, as they wanted to show how serious they are about taking care of our Earth.

In February 2019, lots of young people didn't go to school or college. Instead, they made posters and banners and took to the streets with their message to look after our Earth and stop polluting. We call this a protest.



How Can We Help?

Everybody must do their bit. This is our Earth that we share. We only have one and we need to look after it.

**Reduce,
Reuse,
Recycle**

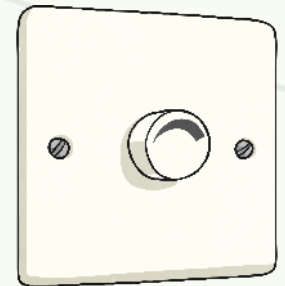
Reuse what you don't need any more. Waste less and recycle where you can.

Use cars less.

Cars pollute the air. Walk or cycle to school.

Use less electricity.

Switch off electrical items when you are not using them. Leaving them on standby uses electricity!



How Can We Help?

Everybody must do their bit. This is our Earth that we share. We only have one and we need to look after it.

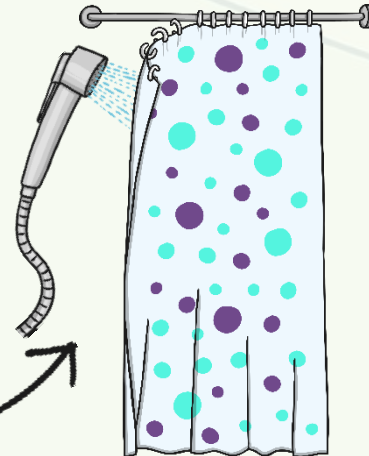
Eat less
meat and
dairy.



Plant
a tree.



Use less
water. Have
a quick
shower
instead of a
bath.





twinkl