

## This is what you can do about Climate Change

**Plant indigenous trees.** Trees absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen for us to breathe.

**Recycle paper and reduce plastic use.** This saves trees, our oceans and reduces energy consumption.

**Save water.** Climate change contributes to droughts.

**Do not let water run** while shaving, brushing teeth or washing vegetables.

**Save electricity.** Turn off lights when not required, fit a solar water heater, use gas for cooking, insulate your house, use energy-saving light bulbs and save on your electricity bill.

**Transport.** Reduce the amount of journeys you make by car. Use public transport, ride a bike, join a car-sharing club or walk.

## How will Climate Change affect the planet?

The Earth has had many tropical climates and ice ages over the billions of years that it's been in existence, so why is now so different? Well, this is because for the last 150 years human activity has meant we're releasing a huge amount of harmful gases into the Earth's atmosphere, and records show that the global temperatures are rising more rapidly since this time. This is not GOOD for the planet!

Climate change is already affecting wildlife all over the world, but certain species are suffering more than others. Polar animals – whose icy natural habitat is melting in the warmer temperatures – are particularly at risk.

It's not just polar animals who are in trouble. Animals which live in the rainforests are under threat as their habitat is cut down, and more droughts cause more bushfires.

Sea turtles rely on nesting beaches to lay their eggs, many of which are threatened by rising sea levels. Did you know that the temperature of nests determines whether the eggs are male or female? Unfortunately, with temperatures on the rise, this could mean that many more females are born than males, threatening future turtle populations!

## How will people be affected by climate change?

Climate change won't just affect animals, it's already having an impact on people, too. Most affected are some of the people who grow the food we eat every day. Farming communities, especially in developing countries such as South Africa, are facing higher temperatures, increased rain, floods and droughts.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 School: \_\_\_\_\_

# Climate Change What can I do?



## So, What is Climate Change?

Climate change (or global warming), is the process of our planet heating up.

Unfortunately, rising temperatures don't just mean that we'll get nicer weather – if only! The changing climate will actually make our weather more extreme and unpredictable.

As temperatures rise, some areas will get wetter and lots of animals (and humans!) could find they're not able to adapt to their changing climate.



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