

COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan

What is the COP Process?

It is an annual (once a year) event held by the United Nations. COP29 will run from November 11th until Nov 22nd 2024.



These four Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)will be central to the negotiations at the COP29. (See GCS lessons on SDGs)

You should know that…

1. World Leaders, officials and climate experts from 197 countries meet in a new place each time.
2. This year it is COP29 and they are meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan.
3. They will discuss plans to reduce the impact of Climate Change on all of us.
4. COP stands for The Conference of the Parties, countries who have signed up to international climate agreements like the Paris Agreement
5. Children need to have a better and bigger voice at these Meetings.



Our Climate is changing and our planet is heating up. In 2015 at COP21 the world agreed to work together to limit the increase in temperature to 1.5 Degree Celsius.

Some countries thought this target was too high and others thought this target was too low.

It is a fact that rich countries are responsible for much of the climate change that is felt by the poorest on our planet first and fastest. But before we get in too deep we should ask…….

Why is our climate changing?

ClimateKids
A Guide to Climate Change for Kids

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

file:///C:/Users/Dell%205060/Downloads/kids-guide-to-climate-change.pdf

Have a look at this guide that explores:

1. Difference between weather and climate.
2. Why the earth is warming.
3. What is climate change?
4. What does carbon have to do with it?
5. Has the Climate changed before?
6. What Climate Change does to the Ocean?
7. What can I do?

_____

ClimateKids

A Guide to Climate Change for Kids

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Have you heard your parents or people in videos talking about climate change? Ever wondered what it is and why we care about it so much? NASA scientists have been studying Earth's climate for more than 40 years. We used what we've learned in that time to answer some of your biggest questions below!

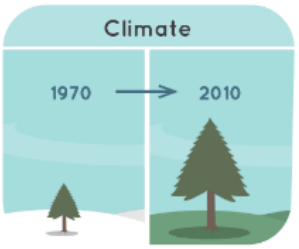
What is the difference between weather and climate?

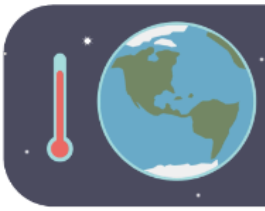
The main difference is time. Weather is only temporary. For example, a blizzard can turn into a flood after just a few warm spring days. Climate, on the other hand, is more than just a few warm or cool days. Climate describes the typical weather conditions in an entire region for a very long time — 30 years or more.



What is climate change?

Climate change describes a change in the typical weather for a region — such as high and low temperatures and amount of rainfall — over a long period of time. Scientists have observed that, overall, Earth is warming. In fact, many of the warmest years on record have happened in the past 20 years. This rise in global temperature is sometimes called global warming.



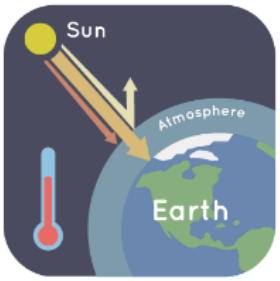


How do we know Earth's climate is getting warmer?

Scientists have been observing Earth for a long time. They use NASA satellites and other instruments to collect many types of information about Earth's land, atmosphere, ocean, and ice. This information tells us that Earth's climate is getting warmer.

Why is Earth warming?

Some of the gases in Earth's atmosphere trap heat from the Sun — like the glass roof and walls of a greenhouse. These greenhouse gases keep Earth warm enough to live on. But human activities, such as the destruction of forests and burning fossil fuels, create extra greenhouse gases. This traps even more of the Sun's heat, leading to a warmer Earth.



What does carbon have to do with it?



Carbon is in all living things on Earth. As plants and animals die, they get buried in the ground. After enough years, these squished underground remains can turn into fossil fuels, such as coal and oil. When we burn those fuels, the carbon that was in the ground goes into the air as a gas called carbon dioxide, or CO_2. Plants and trees can absorb some of this extra carbon dioxide. But a lot of it stays in the atmosphere as a greenhouse gas that warms up the planet.

Has the climate ever changed before?

Yes, but this time is different. Over millions of years, Earth's climate has warmed up and cooled down many times. In the past, Earth often warmed up when the Sun was very active. But nowadays, we can carefully measure the Sun's activity. We know Earth is warming now, even when the Sun is less active. Today, the planet is warming much faster than it has over human history.



It doesn't feel hotter where I live. Why does climate change matter?

The average air temperatures near Earth's surface have gone up about 2 degrees Fahrenheit in the last century. A couple of degrees over a hundred years may not seem like much. However, this change can have big impacts on the health of Earth's plants and animals.



What does climate change do to the ocean?

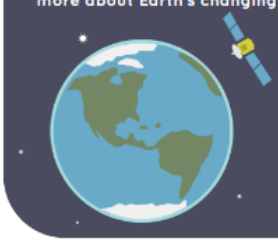
As Earth warms, NASA has observed that sea levels are rising. This is partly due to melting ice. Glaciers and ice sheets are large masses of ice that sit on the land. As our planet warms, this ice melts and flows into the oceans. More water in the oceans makes sea level higher. Also, water expands as it gets warmer. So, warm water takes up more room in our oceans — making sea levels higher.



The properties of ocean water are also changing. One change is called ocean acidification and it can be harmful for plants and animals. Scientists have observed that the ocean is becoming more acidic as its water absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

How are scientists studying climate change?

Scientists study Earth's climate using lots of tools on the ground, in the air, and in space. For example, NASA satellites are orbiting Earth all the time. They measure carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. They monitor melting ice and measure rising seas and many other things, too. This information helps scientists learn more about Earth's changing climate.



What can I do?

Climate change seems big, but it's something that we can learn about and work on together! NASA's scientists are studying and monitoring climate change — and there are a few ways you can help them learn more.



Learn. Have more questions about climate change? Read, play, and watch more about it on the NASA Climate Kids website: **climatekids.nasa.gov**

Do. Want to collect real data for climate scientists? Check out these NASA citizen science projects to see how you can contribute to what we know about our planet: **science.nasa.gov/citizenscience**

Some examples include:

- Globe Observer
- Community Snow Observations
- Air Quality Citizen Science

TO DO: Dive into climate action topic prompt questions

1. If you were invited to take a photo of nature to add to a book about our planet, what would you photograph, and why?
2. Name 3 sounds of nature. How do those sounds make you feel?
3. What is a way a person could take action for the planet in just 1 minute? How about 1 hour? How about 1 month?
4. How can entrepreneurs address climate change?
5. How might tourists on a vacation take climate action?
6. Look at a menu from your favourite restaurant. What menu items would you deem as "earth friendly," and why?
7. Wind energy or solar energy? What would work best at your school, and why?
8. What are the colours of our planet when you look out your window? What are the colours of our planet when it is viewed from space?
9. Everyday experiences–electricity, transportation, food, fashion, waste. Consider your day today and ways you can take action for the planet in your everyday activities.
10. How might you thank a climate action hero?

What do others say about Climate Change? Have a listen to Greta Thunberg



Click the photo above or HERE to hear Greta speak. She wants to know "What did you do when you knew?"

TO DO: What do you think of Greta has to say?

You can explore a little more about Greta Thunberg, the activist and her story by looking at the 10 facts HERE

So Why Azerbaijan?- often called the Land of Fire. Azerbaijan literally means "protector of fire". The country has an abundance of oil and natural gas. And for this reason many people think that COP29 should not be held in a country whose wealth is dependent on finding and selling oil and gas. They will not be as willing to accept that we must leave all our fossil fuels in the ground.

Azerbaijan facts

OFFICIAL NAME: Republic of Azerbaijan
FORM OF GOVERNMENT: Republic
CAPITAL: Baku
POPULATION: 9,780,780
OFFICIAL LANGUAGES: Azerbaijani
MONEY: Azerbaijani manats
AREA: 86,600 square kilometres

Flag of Azerbaijan



More HERE about Azerbaijan.

What is clear is that Older people are meeting to talk about what we need to do to make sure that things are better for younger people. Would you trust them to do the right thing?



Have a listen to what Elizabeth Wathuti at #COP26 has to say? HERE

In Ireland (and around the world) students have been marching to draw attention to what our government needs to do to make sure that we take climate change seriously





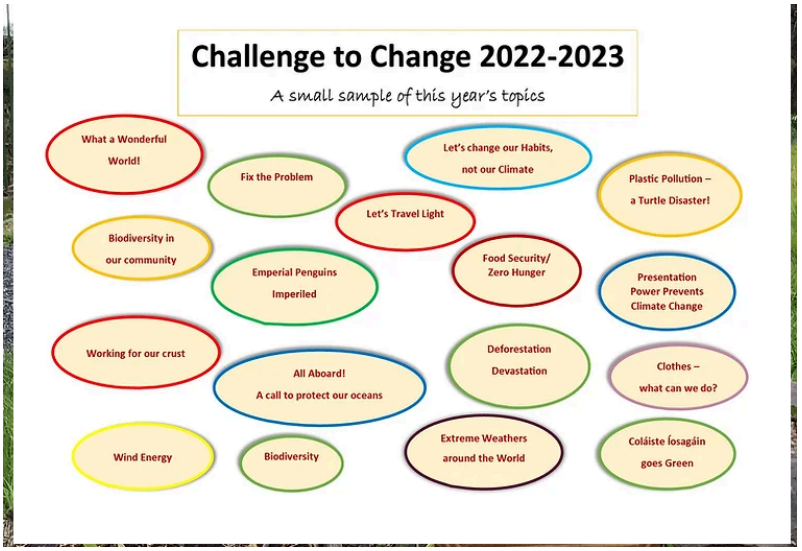
But the real question is what can you do?



Click HERE to check out what you can do.

Challenge to Change

CHALLENGE TO CHANGE is a development education project aimed at young people attending primary schools. It seeks to raise awareness, to bring about a greater understanding of global inequality and to allow young people see the impact of a changing global environment. It seeks to empower them by exploring ways in which their actions at local level can impinge for the better on issues such as climate injustice, human rights, fair trade, racism and exploitation. By informing the students and the wider community the project will bring about a heightened awareness, a social consciousness and a broader vision and appreciation of developmental issues.



You can find ideas, resources, photos, examples, plans and more when you click HERE