



**Friends of
the Earth**

Lesson plan - Climate change

Curriculum links

Geography	Key Stage 2	Unit 7:	Weather around the world
Citizenship	Key Stage 2	Unit 3:	Animals and us
ICT	Key Stage 2	Unit 2C:	Finding information

Prior learning

Understanding of the difference between gas, liquid and solid.

Points to note

Teachers will need a good understanding of how a rise in greenhouse gas emissions is causing climate change.

Learning objectives

- To understand what climate change is.
- To discover how wildlife is at risk from climate change.

Lesson structure

To be conducted over 2 sessions: introduction, reading and research in session 1 and activity & discussion in session 2.

Introduction

- Ask children how much they know about different types of weather and climate.
- Discuss how humans adapt to different types of weather e.g. use jumpers when cold.
- Ask class what they already know about climate change.
- Discuss how an increase in CO₂ and other greenhouse gases is causing temperatures to rise and climate to change.
- Ask for suggestions on what the impact of climate change could be.
- Use our Mad about climate change leaflet to address some of the causes of climate change.

Activity (2 Lessons: one spent researching and another to carry out task)

Each child chooses an animal and researches the following questions:

- Where does this animal live?
- What is the climate like where this animal lives?
- What food does this animal eat?

Ask each child to draw an A4 picture of their animal and incorporate the answers to the questions somewhere on the body.

- Ask the children to think about how their chosen animal would survive if the climate continues to change (use the wildlife at risk section in our *Mad about climate change* leaflet for ideas).
- Add a speech bubble to each animal saying what would happen to their habitat and how they would survive if the climate changed.
- Use the work to create a frieze on the wall highlighting the risk to wildlife from climate change.

Extension activity (for upper Key Stage 2 - yrs 5 & 6)

Ask each child to think of two other species (plants or animals) that would be affected if their chosen animal became extinct.

Plenary

- Children to share their pictures and the impact climate change would have on their chosen animal.
- Ask the children if they think climate change has an impact on human survival too.
- Discuss possible impacts e.g. homelessness from flooding; starvation from crop failure.

Resources

Mad about climate change leaflet.

ICT time or library time to research animals.

Useful web address: www.foe.co.uk/climatechange

Key words/vocabulary

Climate change

Global warming

Greenhouse gases

Temperature

Floods

Drought

Hurricanes

Success criteria

Children will produce an animal picture with information about impact of climate change.

