



Our climate is the long-term weather conditions that we normally experience.

NOVEMBER

## Climate

Humans, animals, plants, and other living beings **need a very specific climate** in order to live - in fact Earth is the only planet we know of that has a climate that has exactly the **right balance to allow life to grow**.

Unsustainable human behaviours, such as burning fossil fuels, polluting the oceans, and cutting down rainforests, has caused Earth's climate to **warm up and become unbalanced**, putting all life on Earth in danger.

This situation is called the climate crisis.

### Conversation starter

Who is responsible for causing climate change?

**Who is responsible for tackling climate change?**

### Class activity

#### Climate Conference of the Planet

In November 2021, many people from around the world are coming together in the UK for [COP26](#) – the 26<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Conference of the Parties. But climate change doesn't just impact humans – it is affecting animals, plants, rivers, mountains, and all beings on Earth.

1. Invite your class to imagine that they have each been chosen to **represent another lifeform or landform** on Earth, speaking on its behalf at a climate conference.
2. Give every student time to choose which lifeform or landform they are going to represent (e.g. a worm, Snowdon, the Amazon Rainforest). They should think about **how their chosen being is affected by climate change, and how that might make them feel**. You may wish to give them homework time to research the impacts and prepare a short statement.
3. Ask the class to gather together for the conference. They should all sit in a circle, facing each other. One by one, going around the circle in character they should **introduce who they are, how they are being affected by climate change, and how that makes them feel**.
4. Once everyone has spoken, go round the circle again – this time, ask everyone to **offer one gift that their lifeform or landform can give to humans** to help them to combat climate change. (e.g. a mountain may offer strength, a river might offer energy, an eagle can offer clear vision).

## THIS MONTH'S CHALLENGES

### Climate

Complete one or more of the challenges below as a whole class, or choose 2 or 3 pupils to complete one each month over the course of the year.

#### Creative challenge



##### Mask making

To support the Climate Conference of the Planet activity, ask your class to create masks to represent their chosen life-form.

You can encourage students to wear their masks during the conference, to help them really get into character as their chosen being.

#### Research challenge



##### Global inequalities in climate change

Which countries are the biggest contributors to climate change?  
Which countries are most affected by climate change?

Present your findings in a graph or chart.

#### Action challenge



##### Plant a tree

Trees are brilliant at absorbing carbon from the atmosphere and locking it up for centuries.

Visit [the Woodland Trust website](#) to find out more about their free tree planting packs for schools.