## **Global Warming and Climate Change**

# The Earth is getting hotter!

By Jessica Hoxhara (Class B4)



## Our Planet is at it's hottest.

Global warming is one of the most serious problems our planet is facing at the moment. Some of the disasters that it's causing are glaciers melting, sea levels rising and even cloud forests dying, but what exactly is global warming?

Global warming is a slow increase of the Earth's average temperature causing a set of changes to its climate. This phenomenon is also known as the 'greenhouse effect'. In fact the amount of greenhouse gases that are being released are higher than they have ever been for the last 800.000 years.



<u>The graph of average global temperature rise.</u> | <u>Download Scientific Diagram</u> (researchgate.net) green effect clipart 10 free Cliparts | <u>Download images on Clipground</u> 2022 To further explain Global Warming is caused mainly by the increased levels of carbon dioxide becoming trapped in the atmosphere which is causing the 'Green House Effect'.

The increase of carbon dioxide has mainly come from the air pollution from manufacturing and industrial operations since the industrial revolution in 1880 and of course from our petrol and oil-burning road vehicles and transport systems. Burning fossil fuel (coal, petrol and oil) is creating pollution in the air and these pollutants get trapped in the atmosphere causing the Earth to heat up. In fact it has been reported by NASA and the NCEI (National Centres for Environmental Information) that **'our world has never been hotter'** 



#### The Green house Effect



### The effects of our world heating up

Global Warming is affecting us all in every corner of the world and the effects are expected to become more noticeable in the next few years.

One of the biggest impacts is climate change. As the climate changes it affects our society and the environment.



https://marketbusinessnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Climate-Change-Some-effects.jpg

We can see the difference in our climates and weather patterns around the globe. Some areas of the world are facing longer periods of drought, often causing an increase in the numbers and severity of forest fires, while others are suffering from flash flooding or even stronger devastating hurricanes. This is causing the loss of animal habitats, animal extinction and even the loss of human life. One dramatic change is that as the Earth is heating up the Polar Ice is melting. We are losing 13% of the Arctic ice every 10 years. This directly affects the animals in the Arctic. The loss of ice is a loss of habitat and hunting grounds for many species of animals. Take the polar bear for example there have been many shocking and disturbing photos lately of these animals starving due to the melting of the ice.



https://cdn.acidcow.com/pics/20150917/nature\_is\_cruel\_02.jpg

In addition the sea levels around the world are rising due to the melting ice. The global sea level has increased by 18 cm to 20 cm since 1900. This means that islands and land at sea level could soon be lost to the oceans.

Unfortunately these changes, such as drought, forest fire and the melting of the ice caps have a spiralling effect making the Green House Effect worse!

Having mentioned many of the disasters that our planet is facing because of global warming I have failed to mention what the real problem is. **It is humanity**. Due to our selfish actions our home is practically burning. Global warming has got to such a serious point that if we keep acting the way we are the Earth will not be able to manage for much longer. We must act now!

# **Solutions for Global Warming**

There are many possible solutions to reduce global warming that we can do as individuals such as:

-use electrical cars.

- -use public transport more.
- recycle more and buy products with less packaging.
- using hot water heated by solar power.
- Plant trees.

All these actions will reduce the production of carbon dioxide. For example planting a tree is useful because a single tree can absorb 1 ton of carbon dioxide in its lifetime, but the most beneficial solution to global warming is to stop burning fossil fuels.

As we know burning fossil fuels generates energy that people use in their everyday life, however, this process ends up releasing a huge amount of carbon dioxide into our atmosphere, which is the cause of global warming. So if we want to stop global warming we must also stop burning fossil fuels.

There are many alternative ways to generate energy that do not include fossil fuels such as hydropower, solar power and wind turbines. These methods of generating energy are far less harmless for our environment and are also renewable.

If we start using these ways of generating energy we might be able to save our planet.

## Renewable energy sources



Solar power



Wind turbines



Hydropower

## Activate Change Now

We need to activate change and we can do this in our own homes, and everyday life, starting with ourselves. Someone who did just that is Greta Thunberg. She is a Swedish environmental activist whose main focus is global warming.

In August 2018, as a student, she started campaigning every Friday about global warming outside the Swedish parliament instead of going to school. This got her noticed around the world and in the European Parliament. She raised awareness of this issue to the young and old. She is now known worldwide for her powerful speeches.

One of her most known quotes is "I want you to act as if our house is on fire, because it is." She is a true inspiration.

https://youtu.be/pxh6X4CW38Y Speech European Parliament 4/3 2020

To sum up if we don't act immediately we will soon not have a home. People must understand the seriousness of this disaster before it's too late. We must do our best to turn this around and ensure a future for our planet, our home and the future generations.

## WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

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