

Lesson Plan - Upper Key Stage 2 - Ages 9-11 - Climate change

Background:

We are WaterAid, an international not-for-profit, determined to make clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere within a generation.

Context:

This lesson helps explain the effect of climate change on the world and how it is everybody's responsibility to help.

Learning Objectives:

- I understand the effects of climate change on the world.
- I understand that we have a shared responsibility to help.

Key words:

- Climate change • Fossil fuels • Global warming • Carbon dioxide • Extreme weather • Droughts
- Cyclones • Hurricanes

Resources:

- Supporting PowerPoint • Poster paper • Pencils • Pens

Curriculum link: The curriculum links are not exhaustive but offer a guide

- Personal Social Health Education: ways of carrying out shared responsibilities for protecting the environment; how everyday choices can affect the environment.



| | Activity | Resource | Timing (guidance only) |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1st Activity: Introduction | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain that some people in the world do not have access to clean water, decent (good) toilets or places to practice good hygiene. WaterAid's aim is to help provide clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene for those who do not have it.• Explain that today we are going to be looking specifically at climate change and how it is making life even harder for the world's poorest people who are already struggling to get clean water.• Ask the children: What is climate change? Show slide 1. Climate change refers to the shift in the Earth's usual weather conditions over years. What we call the "climate". Our world has been getting hotter due to things humans do. This is called global warming.• Ask the children: What kind of things are humans doing which has been contributing to climate change? A result of burning fossil fuels, cutting down too many trees and over-farming.• Ask the children: Why is the earth warming? In the Earth's atmosphere there are gases known as greenhouse gases. Carbon dioxide is one of these.• Greenhouse gases form a layer around the Earth, trapping some of the heat radiating from the surface of the Earth and stopping it from escaping back out to space.• Due to a combination of human actions, our layer of greenhouse gases has been getting steadily thicker and, as a result, the Earth has been getting hotter. Climate change is putting humans, wildlife and the planet at risk. Especially those people in poorer countries. But it's not too late. By working together, everyone can help. | Supporting PowerPoint | 10 mins |

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|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2nd Activity: Main | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change is effecting everyone across the world but it is particularly effecting the world's poorest people. • All of the extra heat energy trapped in our atmosphere, as the result of greenhouse gases from human activity, is causing major changes to our climate and producing more extreme weather. Ask the children: Can you name any extreme weather? The extra heat is also causing more water to evaporate from our oceans to form clouds, so areas that were already wet are getting even wetter. This increases the chances of other types of extreme weather, such as storms, cyclones, hurricanes and floods. • Share slides 2-5 of PowerPoint - Areas of the world that were already hot are getting even hotter and drier, increasing the chances of heatwaves, droughts and wildfires. • Share slides 6 to 12 of the supporting PowerPoint. | | 15 mins |
| 3rd Activity: Poster making | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain that today, in groups of 3-4, we are going to create climate change posters explaining to people what they can do to help. • Ask the children: What things can we do to help? What can we ask others to do? • Have a discussion and write some ideas on the board to support the children with their poster. Explain that the posters should be bright and bold to catch people's attention. | Poster paper Pens | 30 mins |
| 4th Activity: Plenary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow the children to share their posters highlighting key aspects. • Remind the children it is not too late to change and by working together, everyone can help. Read final slides of the PowerPoint. • Ask if there are any questions. | | 5 mins |

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