

# Climate Change

## SDGs Covered:



## Experience

Undertake **one** activity related to **each** of the following:

### 1. Learn about what climate change is

These activities will help you **understand** what climate is and **identify** the different ways in which our climate is vital for life on Earth.

- Investigate how houses, buildings, or public spaces might be affected by climate change. Learn about simple measures you can take to minimize vulnerability. For example: check if your house is at risk of a hazard. Is it well insulated or does it get very hot? Do you have a yard, garden, or land? How can it be landscaped to be more resilient to changes in climate or extreme weather events?
- What part of the world would you love to visit? What can you learn about that destination? How do the people there live? Is climate change a problem for them? Do people there use more, less, or a different kind of energy than people in your area? Create a travel guide with information and drawings and present your findings to your group.
- Hold a number of interviews with family members, friends, or community members about how they think the Earth's climate contributes to the health and well-being of all life forms. You can pre-prepare some facts about the topic to share with them. Share your interview results with your group. Did people really know about the importance of climate in our life?

### 2. Understand its causes

These activities will help you **understand** the causes – both natural and human – of climate change and **recognise** the impact that daily human activities have on our climate.

- Your carbon footprint is the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced from your activities (e.g. transportation, electricity, heating and cooling, and cooking and consumption of goods). Find out how big your own carbon footprint is, and explore ways you can reduce it.
- Watch a documentary about climate change such as An Inconvenient Truth or Chasing Ice. Then discuss with others your impressions of the documentary. Do you agree or disagree with the information in it, and why? Whose points of view are represented in the film? Whose are not represented? What do you feel are the most important messages? What actions are recommended? Has the documentary persuaded you to follow up on its recommendations? Make an action plan and then carry it out.
- Do you have a local organisation who helps manage food waste in your area (e.g. distributes excess food from cafes, bakeries or supermarkets to those in

need)? If so, try to arrange a visit. Investigate how much food waste there is and what solutions are in place to help mitigate it. Volunteer for the organisation for a day to find out more about how the process works.

### 3. Understand its impacts

These will help you **realise** the main ways that climate change will affect natural ecosystems and **understand** how climate change will affect human health, safety and the economy.

- What type of landscape is your favourite: beaches, mountains, deserts, plains or forests? Do some research about it. Is it already being affected by climate change and, if so, how? What about the plants and animals that live there? Visit a local landscape of interest and take some pictures or make a drawing.
- Scientists predict that by the year 2050, 50 million people could be forced to leave their homes and communities because of the effects of climate change. Where will most of these refugees come from and where will they go? What kinds of weather events will force them to leave home? Prepare a short documentary about the issue and screen it to your peers.
- Draw a geographical map of the Earth, showing the oceans, seas, mountains, deserts, forests, ice caps, etc. Label each area with a list of the ways climate change will impact it. For example, Arctic ice will melt, and acid levels in the ocean will increase. Place the map in a prominent place in your hall.

### 4. Recognise some solutions

Be able to **explain** the main solutions we have found to tackle climate change and **know** what the international community is doing as a whole.

- Go on an 'energy diet' for two weeks. Create a plan to reduce your energy consumption at home, when moving from one place to another, and at school. Carry it out. How much energy does each action save? How does using less energy and fewer resources help protect biodiversity? Challenge your friends and family to try your plan.
- Visit an energy company (or have a guest speaker visit you) to talk about renewable energy and what they are doing to help prevent climate change.
- Set up your own organic fruit and vegetable garden – not only are they delicious and fresh but they also have a low carbon footprint.

### Act

- Organise and run a campaign to educate people about reducing their energy use and turning off light switches.
- Take part in a national campaign. For example, School Strike for Climate or Plastic Free July.
- Track the carbon emissions of your Scout hall, school, or home, and talk with your family, Scout Group, and/or school about the possibility of installing solar panels, a solar water heater, or even a wind turbine.

