

Teachers Notes (1)

Facts and stats expanded

Fact	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People in the UK buy 12 billion drinks cans every year – enough to stretch to the moon and back – but only a quarter are recycled. 	<p>Only a quarter of drinks cans are recycled. Drinks cans are made from aluminium, a metal which can be melted down and made into new products. Recycled aluminium is often used to make airplane parts, building facades and bicycles.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaving things on standby wastes energy. 	<p>It takes a forest the size of 500 football pitches to absorb all the CO2 produced by phone chargers that are left plugged in. Leaving your games console, TV etc on stand-by also wastes electricity. In fact, some games consoles, use almost as much energy when in standby as they do when in full use. Did you know that 1.2 billion people in the world don't even have access to electricity in their homes.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If everyone in the world lived the way we do in the UK we would need 3 planets to support our energy needs. 	<p>The average person in the UK has a carbon footprint 85 times bigger than that of the average person in Malawi. Our carbon footprint is shorthand for the impact our daily lives have on the environment. Carbon emissions contribute to climate change. Here in the UK, we are wasting and using more energy than we need.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A soak in the bathtub uses 75 litres of water, but a 5-minute shower uses just 30 litres and reduces water and energy use. 	<p>Saving water also saves electricity because water is pumped to your home and heated using electricity. Did you know that around 1 in 9 people across the world don't have access to clean water. That's a total of 780 million people who can't meet this most basic need.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2014, the average carbon footprint for someone living in the UK was 6.5 tonnes. That would fill 39 'double decker' buses with CO2. 	<p>Our carbon footprint is shorthand for the impact our daily lives have on the environment. Almost everything we do has a carbon footprint – but some things are more responsible for our carbon emissions than others. Carbon emissions contribute to climate change.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The earth is getting hotter – the past 30 years have been the warmest in the northern hemisphere during the last 1,400 years. 	<p>When we use large amounts of fossil fuels such as oil and gas, carbon dioxide (CO₂ – a greenhouse gas) is released into the atmosphere. This process creates an invisible ‘blanket’ around the Earth, trapping heat from the sun and warming the Earth. With more and more CO₂ in the atmosphere this ‘blanket’ has thickened and more heat is being trapped inside and causing global warming – this is known as the “Greenhouse Effect”.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 96 out of every 100 people in the world who will die as a result of a natural disaster, live in poor countries. 	<p>We know that climate change makes life harder for the world’s poorest people. People who rely on growing their own food to eat, and feed their family, need predictable weather so they know when to plant their seeds and when to harvest their produce. When there is not enough rain the crops won’t grow, but too much rain will wash them away leaving families with nothing to eat.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At present rate of emissions, Earth’s average surface air temperature is set to climb by 2.6° to 4.8 °C by the end of this century. 	<p>Rising temperatures doesn’t just mean that we’ll get nicer weather. The changing climate will actually make our weather more extreme and unpredictable. A warmer climate could affect our planet in a number of ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More rainfall Shrinking sea ice Rising sea levels <p>All of which have a huge impact on people and planet.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global emissions of CO₂ have increased by almost 90% since 1970. 	<p>Over the past 150 years, industrialised countries have been burning large amounts of fossil fuels such as oil and gas. When we use/burn these fuels carbon dioxide (CO₂ – a greenhouse gas) is released into the atmosphere. This process creates an invisible ‘blanket’ around the Earth, trapping heat from the sun and warming the Earth. With more and more CO₂ in the atmosphere this ‘blanket’ has thickened and more heat is being trapped inside and causing global warming – this is known as the “Greenhouse Effect”.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since a 1987 ban on harmful chemicals called CFCs, the hole in the ozone layer has shrunk by 4 million square miles. 	<p>This fact shows us we can make a difference! Companies can find ways to make products which don’t harm the earth, and people will buy them. The ozone layer stops harmful ultraviolet rays, or UV rays, from hitting Earth, it protects us.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2008 the UK became the first country to introduce a Climate Change Act, and in 	<p>The 2008 Climate Change Act proposed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050. The 2019 UK set a target of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.</p>

Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund

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<p>2019 the UK set a target of reaching zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.</p>	<p>In May 2019 the Scottish Government also committed to legislate to reduce emissions to net-zero by 2045 after new expert advice.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 423 million people who are the most affected by the impacts of climate change are already living in extreme poverty. 	<p>The UK has grown richer from a model of development that is damaging our climate and hurting the poorest people in the world by pushing them deeper in to poverty. Those who suffer most because of climate change are those who have done the least to cause it. Here in the UK, we've taken more than our fair share.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every year 175 million children miss out on school because of natural and man-made disasters. 	<p>Natural disasters like flood, droughts and earthquakes can destroy homes and schools. Young people often miss out on school because they have to travel far away from home to look for food, water or to reach safety.</p> <p>Man-made disasters include the fallout of war and conflict and refugees fleeing from their homes.</p>

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