Climate change

A presentation by team oreo.

CLIMATE

The word ‘climate’ means the long-term weather patterns for a particular area.

Areas of the world close to the equator, have very hot climates. Ares further away from the equator and closer to the north and south poles, have very cold climates.

Climate change is the change in the average temperature and cycles of weather over a long period of time.

What affects the climate?

Temperature

Increasing air temperatures also affects the oceans, weather patterns, snow and ice and plants and animals. The warmer it gets, the more severe the impacts on people and the environment will be.

Pressure

Pressure affects whether we have clear, cloudless days or thunder and lightning storms.

Moisture

The moisture content of the air causes mists and fogs and of course rain, and frost if it's cold.

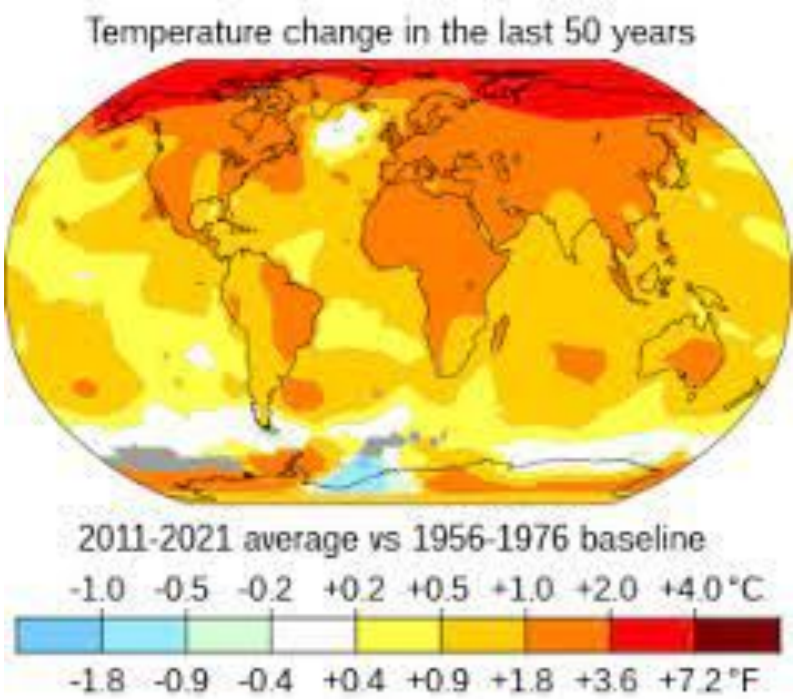
Why is climate change a problem?

Over millions of years, species become adapted to survive in the conditions in which they live.

A stable climate supports this process and allows living things to thrive. If the climate changes quickly, organisms don't have enough time to adapt to new conditions and may no longer be able to survive.

Why does it matter?

Human activity has caused the earth to get warmer in the last 100 years. Greenhouse gas emissions change weather patterns which damage our natural environment. Extreme conditions and rising temperatures affect plants, animals and humans alike.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Over the last 350 years, greenhouse gases have rapidly increased to levels not seen for at least 800,000 years. Modern humans, who evolved about 200,000 years ago, have never previously experienced such high levels of greenhouse gases.
- About 43% of the carbon dioxide produced goes into the atmosphere, and the rest is absorbed by plants and the oceans. Deforestation reduces the number of trees absorbing carbon dioxide and releases the carbon contained in those trees back into the atmosphere.

Rising temperatures are causing sea levels to increase. The rising water can cover coastal areas, destroying habitats and displacing whole populations from low-lying areas.

Rising sea levels are driven by two main processes:

Ice Melting: When the atmosphere and ocean get warmer, ice sheets and glaciers melt, resulting in the addition of fresh water to the ocean.

Thermal Expansion: As ocean water gets warmer, it expands, causing sea levels to rise.

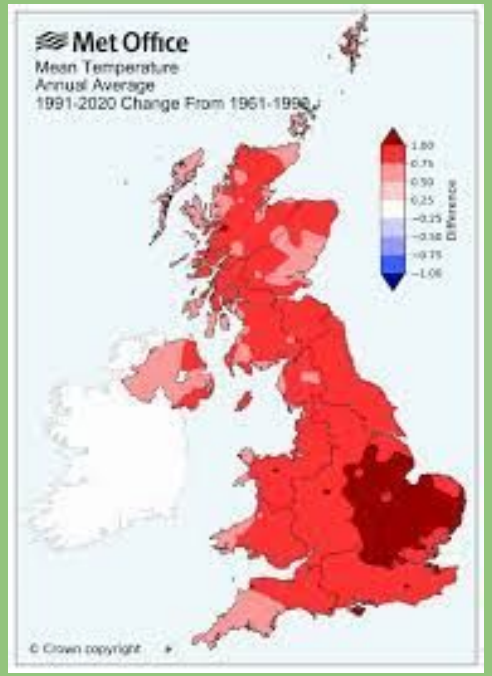
How is climate change affecting us in the UK?

Extreme weather events in the UK are also likely to increase with rising temperatures, causing:

-heavier rainfall events – with increased risk of flooding

-higher sea levels – with larger storm waves putting a strain on the UK's coastal defences

-more and longer-lasting heat waves



WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

- Switch to LED bulbs to reduce your carbon footprint
- Walk, cycle or take public transport
- Throw away less food
- Switch to an electric vehicle
- Change your home's source of energy
- Limit meat consumption
- Use reusable shopping bags
- Take shorter showers

These are just some examples of how we can make a difference.