



CLIMATE CHANGE

KIDSPower: WHAT YOU CAN DO to make a difference

Fact Sheets for Home & School



You have the power...

Kidz Power.

Be a nag... tell your family, friends and everyone you know that green is clean and fossils are mean.

Drive a new breed. If your family buys a car, help them choose a fuel efficient one. Hybrid cars use a mixture of technologies and can cut fuel emissions by 70%.

Use both sides.

Reduce paper waste. Don't use six sheets of toilet paper when two will do! It takes less energy to make recycled paper and will slow down the destruction of the planet's great forests.

Plant trees.

They absorb CO₂ and give off oxygen.

Fresh is best.

Frozen food takes 10 times more energy to produce. Avoid packaged foods. Cut down your rubbish and you'll reduce GHG emissions.

Be house proud.

If you install solar hot water and power systems - the sun will give you energy for free.

Turn it off.

Is your electricity bill the same as last year? How can you make it lower? Turn off the lights when you leave the room as well as the T.V and computer; rather than leaving them on standby.

Lighten up.

Use energy efficient light bulbs, shower heads and white goods. Shut the fridge door. Let food cool down fully before putting it in the fridge or freezer.

Give fresh air a work-out.

Hang clothes out to dry rather than putting them in a tumble dryer.

Call a Greenie. See if there is a green power option. It just takes one phone call.

Are you an Environmental Hero?

Encourage your family to apply for the renewable energy rebates on offer. If enough people use green power, hybrid cars, energy-efficient fridges and solar panels, prices will drop. This will encourage more sales and help countries like India and China to afford clean power.



The Kyoto Protocol

The Kyoto Protocol is the only International Treaty created to fight climate change. After a heated debate, the participating countries signed up to reduce six key greenhouse gases.

International commitment by all nations is needed to adequately reduce global Greenhouse gas levels.

A tougher treaty is already being discussed.



Planting the Seeds of Change

There are changes in the air. Don't be square... look out there... it's not a dare... NOW is the climate for change.

Take a bus and plant a tree.

Greenhouse neutral buses operate where some bus companies plant trees to balance the fossil fuel emissions produced. Bio-diesel buses can also replace traditional buses.

Invest in Green.

China will spend \$200 billion on renewable energy over the next 15 years. Their goal is that by 2010, a tenth of their energy will come from environmentally-friendly sources.

Bank your credit.

Put a price on pollution. Europe and Asia already have a programme for trading carbon and other heat-trapping gases. Companies calculate their contribution to carbon emissions and trade by buying or selling their credits and debits.

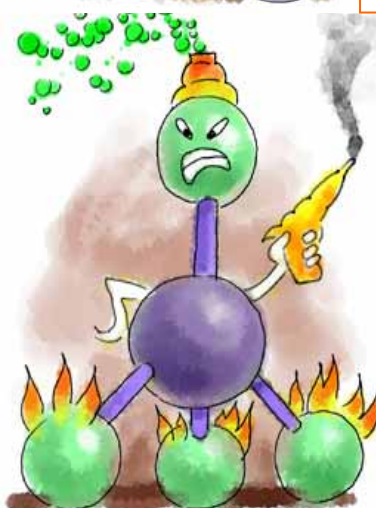


Catch the Gas.

Methane, a major GHG contributor, is a natural by-product of the decomposing organic matter that is disposed of in landfills. If captured, it can be converted into clean energy.

Inventions.

Car numbers in the world will double to 1.2 billion, within 20 years. Hydrogen cars may be part of the solution. Honda, Toyota and other car manufacturers, are producing more fuel efficient cars, as well as cars that run on water!



Use the Sink.

Carbon sinks are underground reservoirs where captured CO₂ can be deposited. Natural sinks are forests and oceans. Some governments are looking at drilling holes and injecting the CO₂ under the ground and into the ocean floor.

Use Nature.

Tiny iron particles added to certain parts of the ocean, appear to promote the growth of plankton which can absorb large quantities of CO₂.

Hungry microbes.

The munching microbe is back! Scientists have uncovered breeds of methane-gobbling microbes that love munching methane emitted from mud volcanoes. *Well... to them, it looks like chocolate cake.*



Rewards.

In London, people who buy certain electric and fuel-efficient cars are not required to pay car tax or congestion fees and even parking meters are free!

More choice.

In California, builders offer home-buyers roofing tiles that convert sunlight into electricity.

How many more ways can you come up with to reduce the amount of fossils released into the atmosphere?

