

Climate Change game

An active game to explain climate change in a simplified way.

Preparation

Divide the class into three equal groups.

- Group 1 are trees
- Group 2 are oil rigs
- Group 3 are carbon dioxide gas - CO₂

Download and print the pictures provided for trees, oil rigs and carbon dioxide gas -CO₂
Each child should have one picture which represents the group they are in.

How to Play

1. The **trees** are to stand up and be trees! For example, they can put their arms out for branches.
2. The **oil rigs** have to pump oil. They can move up and down like a pump.
3. **Teacher**- Explain that we then burn the oil and it produces carbon dioxide. The chemical formula is CO₂. Made up of carbon and oxygen.
4. The **carbon dioxides** have to stand up and float about the room. They look for a tree and join up with a tree. More than one can join up with a tree if the groups are not exactly the same numbers.
5. **Teacher** – Explain that the tree takes in the carbon dioxide to make food and releases oxygen.
6. The **carbon dioxides** all have to sit down.
7. **Teacher** – Explain that this is great, everything is working as it should... until...the axeman appears! The axeman (*can be the teacher or imaginary*), chops down all the trees.
8. The **trees** have to sit down. They are gone!
9. The **oil rigs** should still be pumping lots of oil.
10. **Teacher** – Explain that we are still burning all this oil so more carbon dioxide is in the atmosphere.
11. The **carbon dioxides** are up again and floating about.
12. **Teacher** – Explain that now there are no trees to take in the carbon dioxide, they stay floating in the atmosphere. The carbon dioxide traps the heat in the atmosphere and the earth gets hotter.