Climate Change Facts



Climate change could make life impossible for many species – 1 in 6 face extinction if current global warming trends continue.



On average, the Earth is getting hotter. That means more extreme weather such as heatwaves, droughts, storms, rain and floods.



Coral reefs are home to more than 2 million species. But if temperatures continue rising at the current rate, the ocean will become too warm for coral reefs by 2050.



Renewable energy (for example - wind power) contributes much less to global warming than traditional energy sources such as coal. In the UK, wind re-generated 25% of UK's power in 2016.



A warmer climate means that sea ice is starting to melt, which means that polar bears are losing a vital part of their habitat.



From food production to energy use we're using the equivalent of 1.7 planet Earths to support human activity.



Lots of our food contains unsustainable palm oil, and rainforests are being destroyed to make room for it to be farmed. Many animals (including orangutans) are losing their homes.



Nature (including reefs and forests) can protect us from intense weather. Up to 200 million people depend on coral reefs for physical protection from storm surges and waves so it's vital that we protect them.



Farming is the second biggest cause of carbon emissions worldwide, after energy.



When rainforests are cut down (to make way for farming, roads and houses), large amounts of greenhouse gases are released, fueling climate change.



2016 was the warmest year ever recorded on Earth.



Burning fossil fuels like coal to generate energy is the largest cause of carbon dioxide emissions, which contribute to climate change.