

Reducing our Carbon Footprint



We need to work together to look after our planet.

If we each take small steps, we will make a VERY big difference to our world.

We all need to reduce the amount of carbon that we produce - our 'carbon footprint'. Using the foot below, write FIVE things that you are going to do to reduce your carbon footprint – one on or next to each of the toes, and in the middle of the foot write what impact you think this will have on your local, and global, environment.



Teacher notes



What is a 'carbon footprint'?

Unlike your footprints in wet sand, your carbon footprint can't be seen. However, we all leave a carbon footprint, which impacts our planet, leaving a mark, just like our footprints in wet sand.

When we talk about our 'carbon footprint' we mean the amount of carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas also known as CO₂) we release into the air because of our own energy needs. For example, every time we use energy that comes from fossil fuels - such as coal, oil and natural gas - to heat our homes, drive a car, journey by plane on holiday or eat food that was grown overseas, we create carbon dioxide and make our carbon footprint bigger.

Most scientists believe that greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide are one of the biggest causes of global warming and climate change.

For further information about actions that we can all take at home or at school to reduce our carbon footprint, see the WWW website where there is further information and resources available.

Find out more!

NASA's ClimateKids website has lots more information on energy and climate change

<https://climatekids.nasa.gov>