

Climate Change Current Event

Learning Intention: I can find and share a current event that shows the impacts that humans have on climate change.

Instructions: Find a current event that shows the affects of climate change, recent impacts that humans have had on climate change, or how humans are trying to slow the affects of climate change. Select an article that interests you! *See my example.



Success Criteria:

- Find your current event on a reliable news source (e.g. NASA, National Geographic, Global News, CBC, BBC are great resources to start!)
- In a paragraph, summarize your current event using a hook/topic sentence, body (with enough supporting sentences to support your hook/topic sentence), and conclusion
- Below, share why you picked your current event (why does it matter to you) and where you got your current event from (e.g. I got this article from National Geographic)
- Create in a Word document and share with Mr. Hong (Ryan Hong) and Mr. Bains (Matthew Bains) (like how you did with your Best Meal 2.0 paragraph)
- *You will orally present your current event to the class on Wednesday and Thursday of this week
- On Monday there will be a presentations signup to determine who presents on what day

My Example:

It is everywhere. Durable and cheap, you see it in restaurants (for example, take-out containers), as part of hundreds of thousands of products on store shelves, cars, and so much more. I am talking about plastic, and it is accelerating climate change. When plastic is made, the materials used to make it, such as ethylene and propylene, are made using fossil fuels (mostly oil and gas). The processes needed to extract these fossil fuels from the ground and then using them to produce plastic products are creating tons of greenhouse gases, thus accelerating climate change. To make matters worse, since plastic is so durable, it has a hard time breaking down after it has been discarded. It can last for 400 years or more! To dispose of plastic waste, some countries incinerate it themselves, or send it to other countries for them to do this dirty work. For example, Australia used to send their plastic waste by ship to China, Cambodia, and Myanmar for them to burn it, but that was harmful to both the people and environments of these countries. Also, when plastic sit in landfills, heat and sunlight naturally break it down, releasing more greenhouse gases. Even worse, many plastic products find their way into our oceans. When in the water, not only does plastic take hundreds of years to breakdown, but it also presents a choking/smothering hazard to marine life, making plastic even more dangerous. More needs to be done by plastic producers to slow their production, and recycling efforts need to be amped-up by people and places to slow plastic pollution, and climate change as a result. To summarize, this article, shares that plastic pollution is a serious threat to our Earth and is accelerating climate change. On land and sea, the production and discarding of plastics present problems for all life on Earth. What can we as individuals do to slow the effects of plastic pollution on our planet?

I selected this article because during my recent travels through Thailand I saw firsthand just how bad plastic pollution is there, which made me re-think my use of plastic products and my efforts to recycle them here at home. I got this article from the World Wildlife Foundation.

<https://www.wwf.org.au/news/blogs/plastic-waste-and-climate-change-whats-the-connection#gs.j32lvk>