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GobarTimes

Green Schools Network

ACTIVITY SHEET

Why talk about



How does it matter if the earth gets warm by one or two degrees? Life still goes on. Well, yes! Now, remember the last time when you had 'fever'. Your body temperature must have been 99 or 100, just 1 or 2 degrees above normal. Did life still go on. NO! Its high time we realize, the earth's got fever and there is no medicine available. We just have to take care.

We are adding gases to the atmosphere, which have a craving for heat and trap it: Greenhouse gases- mainly carbon dioxide, methane and water vapour. How? Primarily by using carbon based fossil fuels like coal, gas and oil, as we go about doing our daily business- may be

Name

School Name

Class Date

Gobar Gyan:

Remember the last time you parked your car in the sun and came back later, into 'an oven of a car'. The temperature inside the car increases as the heat is trapped inside, while the windows are closed (Is it the Green House effect?). Well, most often we immediately open the windows of the car to bring the temperature down. But how will we open the windows, when the same thing is happening to our earth? Lets start rolling down the windows:

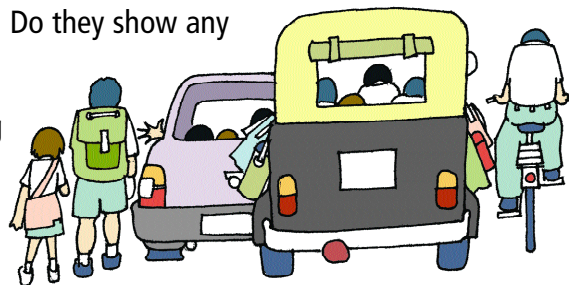
Activity: Find out

How do people in your class commute to school?

Mode of Transport	No. of Students Travelling
Walking	_____
Cycling	_____
School Bus	_____
Private Bus	_____
Personal Car	_____
Others	_____
Total:	_____

What do the above numbers tell you? Do they show any patterns?

Compare this data with a neighboring class. Can we as school students do something to reduce the Greenhouse gas emissions?



Hi! I am Pandit Gobar Ganesh.

You will find me in Gobar Times—a magazine that tells you how your everyday life is linked to the world around you. Hooked, huh? If you want to know more about me and GobarTimes visit us at

Gobar Gyan: If travelling by bus produces the least amount of carbon dioxide then why don't people travel by such means. What stops people from traveling by mass means? It is surely a matter of research. Bicycle would be such a fine means of transport but one doesn't find many of them on the roads these days. Why? Find out.

Activity: Interview a few people around and find out if they would be ready to switch over to non-emitting sources of transport like bicycle, for shorter distances. Ask them what stops them from using such means? Note down your experience here:

SUNDAY CAMPAIGN:

Arrange a Sunday cycle rally – All friends get together to cycle to a nearby picnic spot- ask elders in your colony to join it? Encourage people to at least use cycles on Sundays to go to the nearby market? Let Sunday be a Cycle Day.



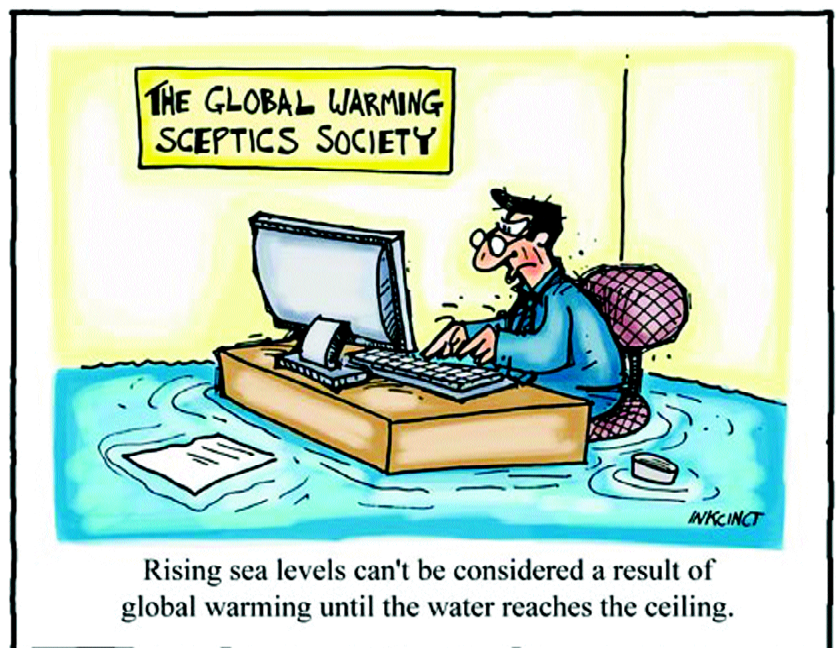
Negotiate:

Try this out: Have a class meeting after listing every individual's mode of commuting to school. Try and come up with a plan, whereby the overall gas emissions of the class can be put down. Negotiate with people who use their personal vehicles. Share the responsibility of global warming jointly as a class.

How easy is it to convince your friends to reduce emissions? You would be surprised to know that something similar is happening at the world level. Who said " Small things have the image of the big".

Gobar Gyan: The negotiations going on at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) aimed at cutting down GHG emissions- will surely have semblance to your classroom negotiations. The basic negotiations are between the developed countries and the developing countries. While the developed rich countries don't want to cut down on there luxuries, the developing countries don't want to negotiate industrialisation for environment, as their main focus is development.

And hey! Do share the proceedings of the negotiations with us- May be your class could have the best deal to offer to the world.



Activity: Find out

Heard of Siachen Glacier, the highest battle ground of the world. Find out how people are staying out there on the ice? Find out if there are other inhabited glaciers in the world?

Artificial glaciers are now being made in the cold desert regions to cater to the increasing water shortage. Check out www.rainwaterharvesting.org or www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2001/08/0830_artglacier.html

Find out where do the major rivers of India originate from ? Find out the names of the glaciers they originate from?

River	Source
Yamuna	_____
Ganga	_____
Sutlej	_____
Narmada	_____

Do all rivers originate from glaciers? If not name a few and name their sources

You must be wondering, how glaciers are important in this talk about global warming? Find the link between glaciers and global warming- check out the December 2005 issue of Gobar times at www.gobartimes.org

Experiment:

Take two equal sized cubes of ice. Place them in the sun. One cube in direct sunlight and the other under a glass tumbler. Which melts earlier? Why?

Is something melting on our planet earth- as we talk about Global Warming – Find out.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has recently come up with a draft report on Global Warming. It terms human activity as a 'very likely' cause of climate change and global warming. The report is available for everyone on the planet to read – on the internet or as briefs in libraries, newspapers etc. Read some literature on the report and find out what are these 'human activities'?

The likely results of Global Warming are also mentioned? Does it just mean that we would have warm winters and hotter summers or is it something else? Find out for yourself.

Did you find this activity sheet interesting?



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