



Welcome to Cool Vancouver News.

This newspaper introduces adult learners to the topic of climate change. *Cool Vancouver News* aims to stimulate thought and discussion about what we can do about climate change.

We use the term “climate change” rather than “global warming”. Climate change more accurately describes the effects of changing weather patterns around the world.

Melting polar icecaps are raising ocean levels and will change the ocean currents that determine weather conditions. In many parts of the world, temperatures will indeed rise. However, in other regions, temperatures will fall.

Suggested Classroom Activities

Read *Cool Vancouver News* together as a class. Take turns reading out loud. Discuss any questions and ideas that arise from the text.

Discussion topics

In groups or as a class, discuss the following topics:

- Compare the impacts of climate change in British Columbia and around the world.
- Rank the actions we can take to live sustainably in order of ease, cost and effectiveness.
- Residential greenhouse gas emissions make up about one quarter of Canada’s total emissions. The rest is produced by industry. Which is more important, individual actions to live sustainably or industrial and infrastructural change?

Research topics

Students can use the library, Internet, or other sources to find out more information. Students can give an oral presentation, write a report or produce a poster based on their research.

Some possible research topics:

- The Energuide program: (www.oeo.nrcan.gc.ca)
- What is the new Canadian government’s plan on climate change? (www.davidsuzuki.org or www.nrcan-nrcan.gc.ca)
- Keeping your car running efficiently (<http://oeo.nrcan.gc.ca/transportation/personal/index.cfm?attr=8>)
- Geothermal heating: (<http://www.geothermal.ca/whatis.html>)

Clean Air Champions

Book a Canadian Olympic or National athlete to speak to your class at no charge through the Clean Air Champions program. The goal of the program is to inspire Canadians to get active to reduce greenhouse gases. Champions are passionate about clean air and slowing climate change, so their messages are heartfelt and leave a lasting impression on their audiences.

For information: contact Passion for Action at (604) 572-4292 or contactus@passion4action.com. Additional information on the Clean Air Champions program can be found at <http://www.cleanairchampions.ca>

Getting more information

Have students learn how to receive information. The Canadian government will mail students a comprehensive information package and classroom posters free for the asking. For more information, go to <http://www.climatechange.gc.ca/english/publications/> or call 1- 800 O-Canada (1 800 622-6232).

Climate change in the news

Students can monitor newspapers for items about climate change. Start a bulletin board of newspaper clippings about climate-related news stories.

Please photocopy the student exercises.

Find information

Scan *Cool Vancouver News* for the following information.

1. A kind of scientist

2. A parasite that damages forests

3. A form of transportation

4. Two impacts of climate change

5. Two kinds of light bulbs

6. A farm animal

7. A country in the South Pacific

8. Two greenhouse gases

9. A continent

10. A website

True or false?

Write T for true and F for false. If the sentence is false, correct it.

1. ____ Bill Taylor is a climatologist.

2. ____ Higher sea levels are not related to climate change.

3. ____ The Industrial Revolution started in 1950.

4. ____ The amount of greenhouse gases has decreased.

5. ____ Cars do not produce greenhouse gases.

6. ____ Rob and Marlene installed a new furnace.

Finish the sentences

Finish the sentences. Use the words in the box below.

1. Houses are warmer and cheaper to heat if they have enough _____.
2. _____ help pay for home improvements.
3. _____ is what you expect. Weather is what you get.
4. The _____ is the air that surrounds the earth.
5. A low-flow shower head _____ water use by about 60 per cent .
6. _____ cracks in your house is a cheap way to reduce your heating bill.
7. Driving to and from work with a group of people is called _____.
8. _____ cause about 45 per cent of Canadians' greenhouse gas emissions.
9. Climate change will have important _____ in British Columbia.
10. _____ is an important greenhouse gas.
11. Heavy rain can cause _____.
12. You should not _____ your car for more than 30 seconds.

| | | | | |
|--------------------|------------|----------------|---------|------|
| climate | landslides | idle | impacts | cars |
| insulation | sealing | carbon dioxide | reduces | |
| grants and rebates | atmosphere | carpooling | | |

Linking information

Write the number of the action in front of the fact that applies to it. The first one has been done for you.

Action

1. Turn down the temperature at night.
2. If your house is old or drafty, have it tested for energy efficiency.
3. Install low-flow shower heads.
4. Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs.
5. Replace old appliances with new, more energy efficient models.
6. Seal leaks around doors and windows.
7. Use cold water to wash clothes.
8. Walk, take the bus, or ride a bike once a week.

Fact

- 5 BC Hydro will pay \$30 to remove your old fridge.
- _____ Heating water uses 80-90 per cent of the energy used in doing the wash.
- _____ Cars are our largest single contributor to greenhouse gas emissions.
- _____ The cracks and holes in the average house add up to a hole the size of a basketball.
- _____ Every 1°C you lower your thermostat saves you 2-3 per cent on your heating bill.
- _____ Compact fluorescent light bulbs last ten times longer than regular light bulbs and use 25 per cent less electricity.
- _____ The EnerGuide home improvement program offers grants to pay for energy efficient improvements.
- _____ A low-flow shower head uses 60 per cent less hot water than an ordinary shower head.

Short Answers

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

1. In what ways do people cause climate change?

2. What does Bill Taylor research?

3. What are some ways that climate change will affect British Columbia?

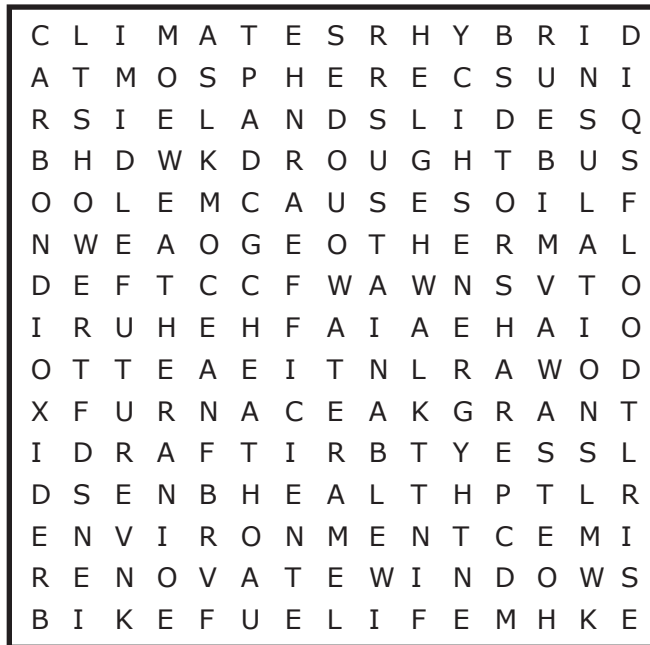
4. How did Rob and Marlene help pay for their home renovations?

5. What actions can you take in your life to reduce climate change?

6. What are some ways climate change will affect other parts of the world?

7. Why are greenhouse gases important?

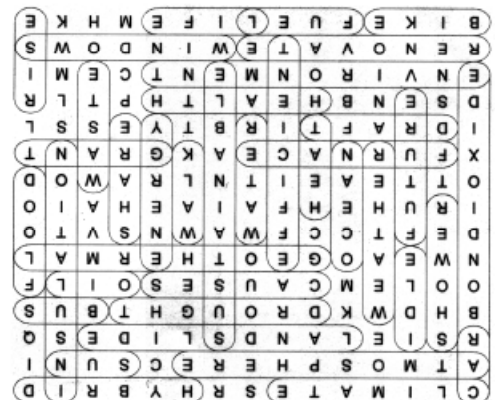
Word Search



Atmosphere
 Bike
 Bus
 Car
 Carbon Dioxide
 Causes
 Climate
 Draft
 Drought
 Efficient
 Energy
 Environment
 Flood

Fuel
 Furnace
 Future
 Geothermal
 Grant
 Health
 Heat
 Hybrid
 Idle
 Insulation
 Landslide
 Life
 Ocean

Oil
 Renovate
 Rise
 Share
 Shower
 Sun
 Sustainable
 Walk
 Waste
 Water
 Weather
 Windows





Please fill out this survey and fax it to **604 737-8598** or mail it to **Cool Vancouver News, #213-4438 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6R 4R8.**

1. Where did you find the *Cool Vancouver News*?

At school At the library Community centre
 onedayvancouver.ca Other (please explain) _____

2. How interested are you in the topic of *Cool Vancouver News*? (pick one)

Very much Quite a bit A little Not at all

3. How suitable were the exercises?

Very much Quite a bit A little Not at all

4. What is your opinion of the exercises? Pick any answers that apply to you.

Interesting Useful
 Helped me understand the topic Too easy
 Easy to follow Confusing

5. Will you make some changes in your life to start living more sustainably? What changes?

6. What did you like about *Cool Vancouver News*?

7. How could we improve *Cool Vancouver News*?

8. Please write any other comments you have about *Cool Vancouver News*. Are there any other topics that a future magazine should cover?



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At school At the library Community centre
 onedayvancouver.ca Other (please explain) _____

2. How appropriate was topic of *Cool Vancouver News*? (pick one)

Very much Quite a bit A little Not at all

Comments:

3. How interested are you in the topic of *Cool Vancouver News*? (pick one)

Very much Quite a bit A little Not at all

Comments:

4. How high was student interest in the topic? (pick one)

Very much Quite a bit A little Not at all

Comments:

5. How suitable were the exercises? (pick one)

Very much Quite a bit A little Not at all

Comments:

6. Is there change in students' attitude and actions in regard to climate change?(pick one)

Very much Quite a bit A little Not at all

Comments:

8. Do you plan on reusing this curriculum?

9. What do you like about this curriculum? How could it be improved?

10. Please write any comments you have about *Cool Vancouver News*. Do know of any other topics that would be suitable for development for future curriculum projects?