



Climate Changing Choices

A visual representation of the impact of our choices on the planet's climate. This activity provides a great lead in and follow-up to a WildED *Explores the Nature of Our Changing Climate* program.

Objective: To quantify and visually represent the impact of our carbon output on the planet, both negatively and positively.

Materials:

- One copy of “Our Climate Impact” (included below)
- A bulletin board or other display area
- Pins or tacks
- Several copies of the “Greenhouse Gases” master (included below)
- Scissors
- One overhead or projection of “Climate Changing Choices” list (included below)

Teacher Instructions:

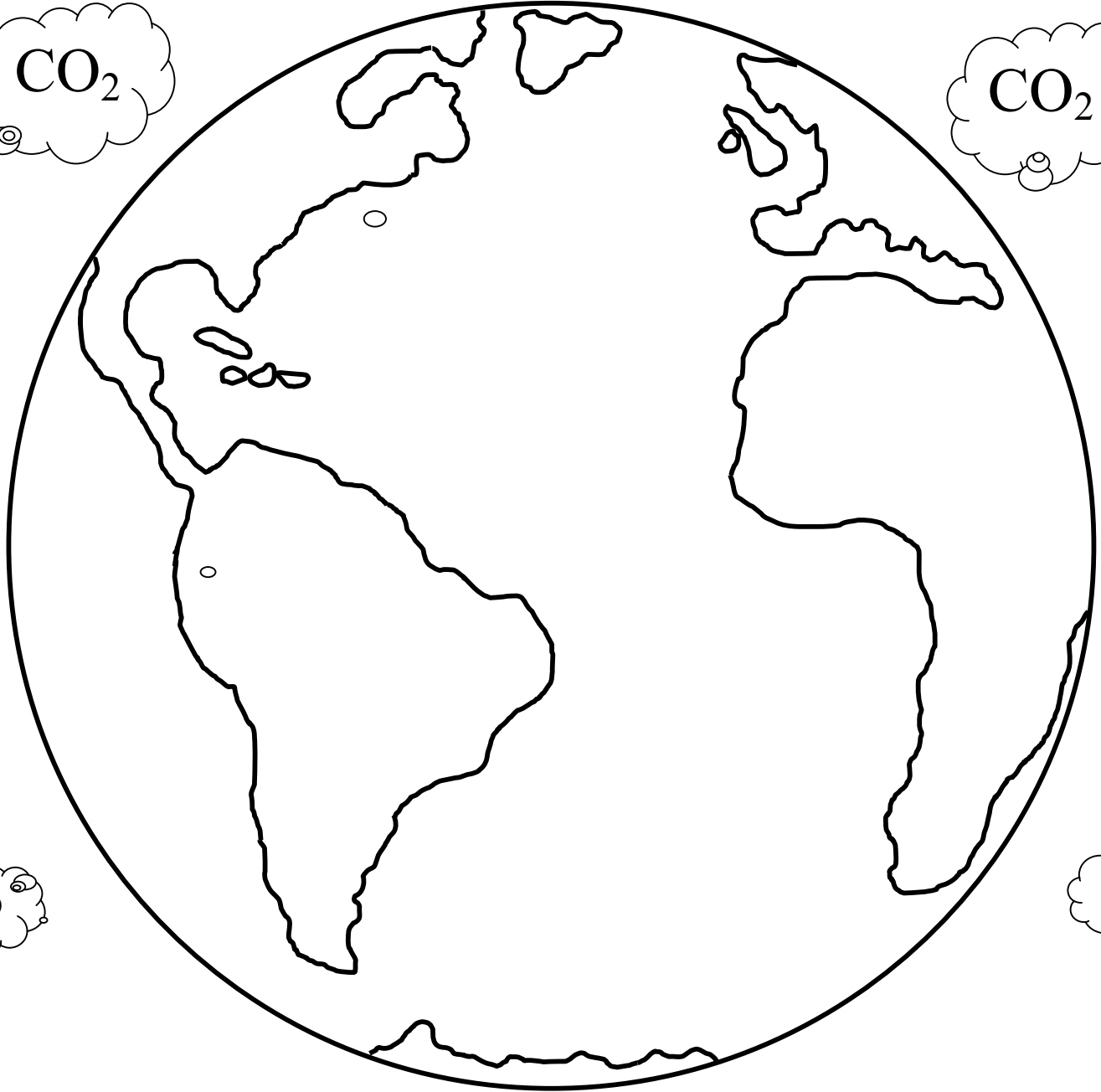
- Prior to the outdoor component of your WildED program, but after viewing the WildED Climate Primer Slideshow, print a copy of “Our Climate Impact” image below and post it on a bulletin board in the classroom.
- Make copies of the Greenhouse Gases master and have them available for students to use. Note that water vapour (H₂O), carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄) are all included, and are different sizes to represent their varying effectiveness at trapping heat in the atmosphere. These are not the only greenhouse gases, but are some of the more common ones.
- Display an overhead or projection of “Climate Changing Choices”.
- Have students record how many of the “choices” on the list they currently make and the amount and type of greenhouse gas emission associated with each choice.
- Have each student cut out the number and type of emissions they produce, and use pins to tack these to the bulletin board in a layer surrounding the Earth. Note that the naturally produced greenhouse gases required to keep earth at a livable temperature are already included.
- Following your WildED program, revisit this activity. Have students remove a Greenhouse Gas cloud for each action they complete on the CarbonSmart Action Tracker. Work as a class to reduce your impact as much as you can!

OUR CLIMATE IMPACT

H₂O

CO₂

CO₂



H₂O

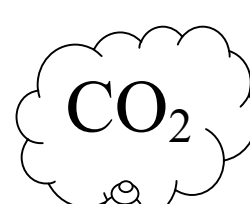
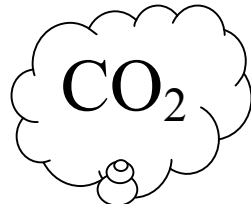
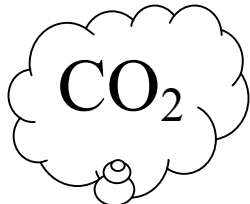
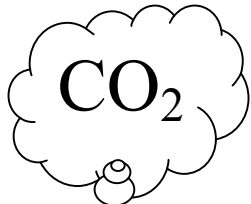
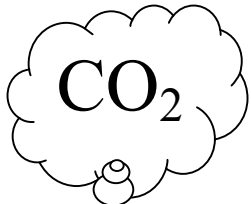
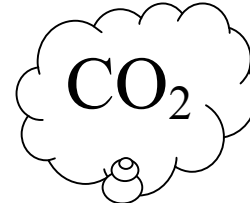
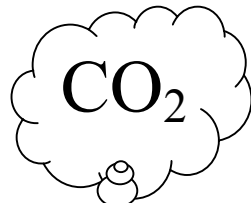
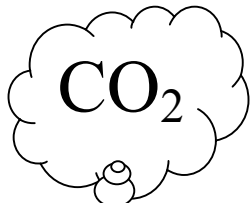
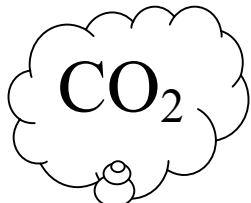
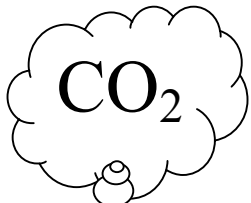
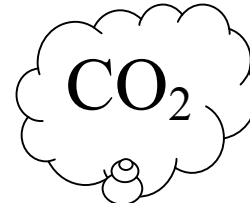
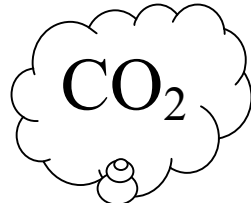
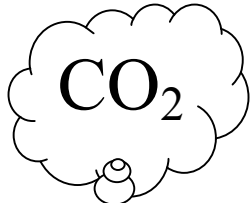
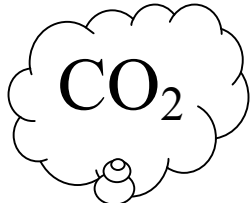
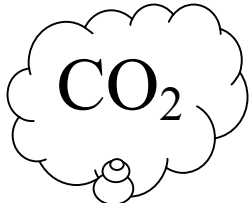
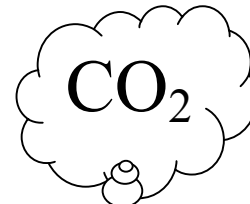
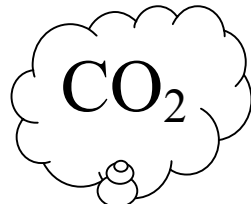
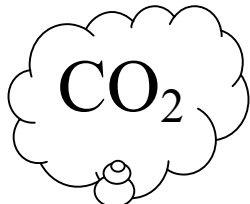
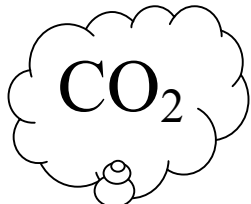
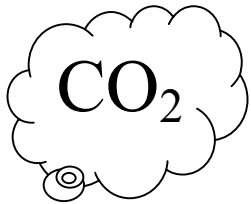
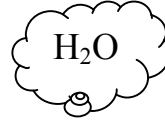
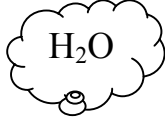
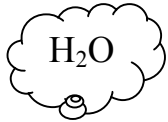
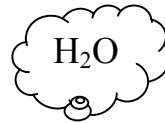
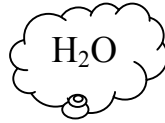
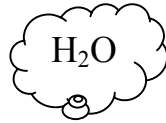
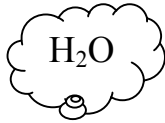
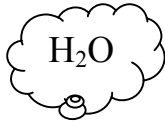
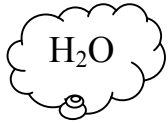
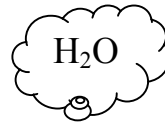
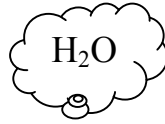
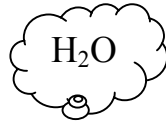
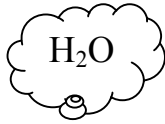
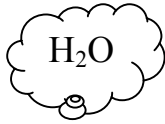
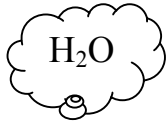
H₂O

CO₂

CH₄

CO₂

GREENHOUSE GASES



CLIMATE CHANGING CHOICES

I...	H ₂ O	CO ₂	CH ₄
Get driven to school in a car	2	4	
Ride the bus to school	2	1	
Leave the lights on sometimes		2	
Leave the computer on sometimes		2	
Fly somewhere most years		8	
Eat meat sometimes	2		4
Like to buy new clothes	2	3	
Turn the heat on in my house		4	
Have a cell phone or MP3 player	1	3	
Get a new electronic device once or more a year	1	3	
Play ice hockey or go swimming sometimes		2	
Keep my food in a refrigerator		2	
Eat food from far away (pineapple, mango, rice)		4	
Throw away things I'm done with into the garbage		1	3
Drink bottled water	1	3	
Get all my food from a store		2	
Dry my clothes in the dryer	1	2	
Use air conditioning in the summer		2	
Watch TV or use my computer for entertainment		4	
Use an electric hairdryer, straightener or razor	1	2	
Eat food that comes in a package	1	3	
Like nice, long, hot showers	2	2	
Spend more than 1 hour a day in a car	2	3	