

Whole School Assembly: “Looking After Our World – Together”

Whole school assembly resource introducing climate change in a way that inspires, empowers and gently guides children to come up with their own ideas. It's designed to spark curiosity, build shared responsibility, and lay the foundation for eco council-led action.

Audience: EYFS to KS2

Time: 15–20 minutes

Resources Needed (optional)

- A globe or picture of the Earth
- Simple visuals (melting ice caps, animals, weather changes)
- A pledge tree or space on a wall for children's ideas

Welcome & opening question

“Hands up if you've ever heard the words *climate change*?”

What do you think it means?”

(Pause for a few suggestions – repeat back clearly and positively.)

“Today we're going to learn more about what it means, why it matters, and most importantly, what we, right here in this school, can do about it.”

What is climate change?

“Imagine the Earth is wearing a big blanket. Normally that blanket keeps us warm. But now it's getting too thick. It's trapping heat and making our Earth too warm. (imagine wearing your coat on a hot summer day)

This is happening because of:

- **Pollution** from things like cars and factories (you may wish to check if children understand what pollution means)
- **Too much waste**, like throwing food or clothes away
- **Cutting down too many trees** that help clean our air and help us breath

This warming is changing the weather. Ice is melting. Animals are struggling, their homes are in danger. Some people can't grow food like they used to.”

Why should we care? (emotional connection)

"Now think of a place you love. Maybe it's the park, your nan's garden, your school playground.

Wouldn't you want that place to be clean, green, and safe forever?

We only get **one Earth**, we're borrowing it from the children who come next.

We're not too small to help. We're *exactly* the right size to begin."

What can we do? (Pupil-led reflection and gentle adult steering)

"This isn't about one person saving the world. It's about all of us doing small things together.

Let's stop and think:

- What could our school do to take care of the Earth?
- What would make a difference, but not cost lots of money?
- How can we help without leaving anyone out?"

(Give 30 seconds of quiet reflection, then invite a few hands to share ideas)

If children don't mention it yet, gently guide with questions like:

- "What do we throw away at school that we might not need to?"
- "Do we have things we could share or reuse more?" (ideas like vinted for uniforms, P.E kits, book bags etc)
- "Could we grow something together, even just in a pot?"
- "What could we do at lunchtime to waste less food?"
- Have we thought about the way we travel to school? Is that helping or harming the environment? How so?

As an extension to this conversation teachers can further discuss the environmental and physical and emotional benefits in their classrooms when children are writing their pledges.

Our school's climate pledge

We will have a pledge tree called 'our planet pledge tree.' (or display board)

We'd love every child to write or draw one idea big or small that could help.

Our Eco Council will read your ideas and choose a few to turn into actions."

Final message: Everyone has a part to play

"Climate change is a big problem, but we are not powerless.

You might not have all the answers. But you have something just as powerful, **your ideas!**

We can't do everything, but we can do **something**. And when we do it together, we make a difference."

Thank the children for participating and end the assembly.