



# Climate change - information sheet

When talking about a topic like climate change, it's important to make sure your facts are correct.

Here is some helpful information which you could refer to:

- The Earth's atmosphere contains **greenhouse gases** which trap heat from the sun. The greenhouse gas layer is getting thicker so the earth is getting hotter, which leads to **climate change**.
- Over the past **150 years**, the average temperature on our planet has increased by just over **one degree Celsius**.
- Oil, coal and gas are called **fossil fuels**. When they are burnt they release **carbon dioxide**, a greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere.
- Around **15 billion trees** are being cut down every year. This releases about the same amount of carbon dioxide as driving **600 million cars**.
- There is now more carbon dioxide in our atmosphere than there has been in over **3 million years**.
- There are around **1.5 billion cows** on our planet. Each day an average cow produces enough methane, a greenhouse gas, to fill **15 party balloons**!
- The growing number of people in the world all need food and energy. In 1960 there were only **3 billion people** in the world. Now there are more than **7 billion people**!

