

# Key Learning – The Environment

## Year 2 Science

### National Curriculum

#### Science skills

- To identify and classify by sorting litter into recycling groups based on their materials.
- To use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions by suggesting ways that waste can be reduced, reused and recycled.
- To ask simple questions (about the rainforest and endangered animals) and recognise that they can be answered in different ways
- To identify and classify (rainforest animals.)
- To Perform simple tests, by investigating (how much water can be saved by turning off the tap while washing hands)
- To observe closely, using simple equipment and measuring.

### Images



### Vocabulary

**Climate** is the average weather conditions over many years (usually around 30 years). The earth's climate is just right, meaning that things can live on the planet.

**Climate change** is a change in the overall weather and temperature on Earth. (Not the day-to-day weather). The Earth is getting warmer due to some of the things humans are doing. This means it will be more difficult for living things to survive.

Being **endangered** means that scientists think that a type of animal or plant is at risk of becoming **extinct**.

**Energy** makes everything work.

Electricity, gas and oil are all sources of **power**. They give us **energy** to make things work.

Our planet provides everything that we and all living things need. We call it our **environment**.

1

### What is Climate Change?

Climate change is a change in the overall weather and temperature on Earth. (Not the day-to-day weather). The Earth is getting warmer due to some of the things humans are doing. This means it will be more difficult for living things to survive.

2

### Why should we reduce, reuse and recycle?

Littering, incinerating and landfill are not good things to do with our waste, as they are harmful to the world around us and the plants, animals and people who live here

It's very important that we find better things to do with our rubbish that do not harm the environment. This way, we can make the world a pleasant place for everyone.

3

### Where does energy come from ? How can we save energy? What are renewable sources of energy?

Electricity, gas and oil are all non-renewable sources of power. They give us energy to make things work. They can't be replaced once they have been used. Scientists think these sources are running out.

Renewable power sources can be replaced. This means they will never run out. Solar power, wind power and wave power are all renewable power sources.

4

### Why are Rainforests important?

Rainforest trees produce lots of the oxygen we breathe. They clean carbon monoxide and other greenhouse gases from the air.

Rainforests are very important for humans, for the plants and animals that live there, and for the environment too!

5

### Why are animals Endangered? How does this happen?

Being endangered means that scientists think that a type of animal or plant is at risk of becoming extinct. Habitats can be destroyed because of pollution, or when land is cleared to make way for building or farming.

6

### Why Should we save Water? How Can we Save Water?

When we use water, it must be cleaned before it is safe for us to use again. Cleaning it uses electricity. Making electricity burns fossil fuels and causes greenhouse gases. Saving water is also called **water conservation**. We can save water by showering instead of bathing, and turning taps off when we can.