

Unit 1: New Unit

Content Area: **Template**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Full Year**
Length: **Full Year**
Status: **Published**

GOALS/PURPOSE

To explore potential causes of climate change, how scientists track changes in climate, and how humans can improve Earth's condition.

SCI.MS-ESS3-3	Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.
SCI.MS-ESS3-4	Construct an argument supported by evidence for how increases in human population and per-capita consumption of natural resources impact Earth's systems.
SCI.MS-ESS3-5	Ask questions to clarify evidence of the factors that have caused climate change over the past century.

READ ALOUD TEXTS/EXCERPTS

Book - [KIDS FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE](#)

Author - DAVID MILES

Illustrator - Albert Pinella

Summary - Our planet is in trouble! But with the help of this book, every kid can be a superhero making a difference. Sixty engaging missions guide readers through making carbon-saving changes in all aspects of their lives, from gardening to gadgets—even a DIY water-saving device for their toilet tank! Aided by lively illustrations, the author weaves crucial climate statistics and helpful resources with stories of positive change already happening, such as the resurgence of the Eurasian beaver due to conservation efforts. Along the way, readers meet other superheroes, both animal and human, who are changing the world too. With advice about speaking up and inspiring others to join in, veteran environmentalist Martin Dorey infuses optimism and encouragement into this essential guide to saving Earth, two minutes at a time.

Book - [WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?](#)

Author & Illustrator - LONNIE MF ALLEN

Summary -

Book - [OUR WORLD OUT OF BALANCE: UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE AND WHAT WE CAN DO](#)

Author - ANDREA MINOGLIO

Illustrator - Laura Fanelli

Summary - Encouraging and easily digestible, this illustrated nonfiction guide introduces children ages eight to twelve to the important topic of climate change with tips on “How You Can Help” and citizen scientist activities.

Filled with engaging big ideas that will inspire children to think about their role in keeping our world healthy, Our World Out of Balance details how humans have thrown the planet off-balance and ways we can work together to be part of the solution and create a healthier world.

Book - [CLIMATE CHANGE, THE CHOICE IS OURS](#)

Author - DAVID MILES

Illustrator - Albert Pinella

Summary - Climate change: would you leave it to chance? In this interactive book for kids, young readers will learn about climate, how climate has changed throughout history, and the driving forces of the greenhouse effect. Using colorful illustrations, simple text, and research from trusted sources like NASA, NOAA, and the United Nations, Climate Change outlines the causes of climate change and gently explores its consequences like rising sea levels, more extreme weather, and drought. Though not shy about uncomfortable realities, Climate Change also emphatically teaches hope for the future and includes timely recommendations for what kids can do, short bios of adults and kids who are leading the charge, and brief summaries of successes that have already happened. Most importantly of all, the book's built-in spinner offers readers a choice on every page: spin the arrow and leave climate change to chance, or do something about it!

ARTICLES AND/OR VIDEO RESOURCES (FOR INSTRUCTIONAL PURPOSES)

[Be A Weather Watcher](#) - SciShow Kids Video

Smithsonian Institute - [Climate Change Panel Discussion](#)

National Geographic Article - [Climate Change](#)

Live Science Article - [Is Climate Change Making Our Weather Worse?](#)

Live Science Article - [What is Climate Change and How Is it Affecting Earth?](#)

[What if we cut down all trees?](#) - Peekaboo Kidz Video

[What Are Sources of Energy?](#) - Peekaboo Kidz

[Climate Change 101](#) - Peekaboo Kidz

WEBSITES (FOR STUDENTS TO INTERACT WITH)

Smithsonian Institute Podcast - [Lights Out](#)

Most people in North America can't see the Milky Way. The reason? We're ensconced in a luminous fog of artificial lighting 24/7. The evolution of lighting technology over the last century has made it possible to live, work, and play at any hour—day or night. But light pollution affects all life on earth, from humans to plants and insects. So, how did we find ourselves surrounded by a glowing shroud of electricity... and can we have the dark, without giving up the light?

Game - [Recycle Roundup](#)

National Geographic - [SAVE THE EARTH](#)

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS (LESSON PLANS, REPRODUCIBLES, ETC.)

[NASA](#) - Reproducibles and Lessons

[Stanford University](#) - Sample Curriculum & Map