

## Be a climate Kiwi!



Scientists say that we need to have reduced our greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2020. That doesn't sound like much and seems like a long way off, but us Kiwis have been increasing our emissions over the last few years rather than reducing them! To turn that situation around we need

to introduce a New Zealand reduction target of 30% by 2020 and with your help we will lead the way by showing how easily we can make those reductions in our day to day lives.

### Travel

Changing the way we get about is one of the easiest ways to reduce our carbon footprint. Did you know that 1/3rd of all car journeys in NZ are less than 2kms? That's a distance that could easily be walked in 20 minutes or biked in 10! You'll feel better, save on fuel costs and help the planet if you convince your family to walk or bike instead of driving. For longer distances challenge the whole family to try the bus, ferry or train. They might find it is far better and more relaxing than they anticipated.



When you do need to use the car think about carpooling. Could you pick up other people in your

area attending the same soccer training or other activity? Mum and Dad might appreciate taking it in turns to do pick-ups and drop-offs too. And let them know that a fuel efficient car, well maintained and driven smoothly could save your family \$100's every year.

Find out more at [www.fuelsaver.govt.nz](http://www.fuelsaver.govt.nz)

### At Home

As part of this challenge you can help your family take a look at their energy usage and find ways to make savings. We give you a few tasks to save household energy in the challenge but there are heaps of ways to cut down, so see how many other ideas you can come up with.



A properly insulated home can massively reduce your heating requirements so is one of the best ways to save energy, but that doesn't mean you can leave it all

up to mum and dad there are plenty of little things you can do every day that will all add up. Taking shorter showers, putting on a sweatshirt rather than turning the heater up, closing the curtains and doors and turning off all your appliances when not in use all make a difference.



The way we live and consume creates huge amounts of greenhouse gases and waste. By being more careful about what we buy and throw away we can reduce our impact. Take a packed lunch, avoid products with excess packaging, say no to plastic bags and buy products that will last. Finally think about eating a little less meat and dairy because in NZ agriculture accounts for almost half our greenhouse gas emissions!

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### Getting Active

By taking action in the community you can massively increase your impact on reducing climate change and inspire others to take action in their lives too. You could start community projects which will reduce the community's carbon footprint and don't think because you're young no-one will listen to you. Decision makers in businesses, councils and Government are only too aware of how influential you are and should be willing to listen to what you have to say. We have given you a few ideas of how to get active as part of the challenge but please don't limit your ideas just to the ones we have given you. Talk to your teacher about other ways to get active and he/she can allocate points accordingly.



**"CLIMATE CHANGE IS SO IMPORTANT. THERE'S NO TIME TO WAIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO SOLVE IT. IT'S UP TO US TO MAKE CHANGES IN OUR LIVES NOW!"**

Haddon Smith,  
The Electric Confectionaires



## If you don't care about climate change what planet are you on?

We all know that climate change is the biggest issue our planet faces. Funny enough it is often the youth of today who are best informed about the issue and want to do something about it! The Greenpeace Climate Challenge is a project that will help you to make a big difference in protecting our planet and in inspiring your community to do their part too.

### Here are some scary facts about climate change:

- Leading scientists agree we have a window of 8 to 10 years left to make big greenhouse gas reductions.
- 1/3rd of all animal and plant species are under risk of extinction, including our own Tuatara and Kauri trees.
- Extreme weather events such as heatwaves, floods, droughts and cyclones could become commonplace in NZ.
- As the ice caps melt we could see up to 7 metres of sea level rise. This will mean the loss of many of our coastal areas.
- Already many low lying Pacific Islands are under threat and may soon become uninhabitable.
- Millions of people could become environmental refugees as they are made homeless by the effects of climate change.

### Some really encouraging facts about climate change:

- It's not too late. We can still stop the worst effects of climate change.
- Solutions such as clean renewable energy e.g. wind and solar already exist – we just need to use them!
- Lets be honest – we're all a bit wasteful and there are HUGE energy savings to be made with little or no effort.
- New technologies and processes which are more efficient and less polluting are being developed all the time.

*If we all do our little bit we will save our amazing planet!*

Our challenge to you is to collect as many Climate Kiwi points as possible through taking actions that will help prevent climate change and involve your school, your family and your community along the way. As you inspire others with your activities, sign them up as sponsors and help raise money for Greenpeace and for your school to do even more to help the climate.

## Will you win the Greenpeace Climate Challenge?

Who will be the biggest eco warrior at your school? And which school will collect the most points? Of course the planet is the real winner here but we have some rewards for those amongst you that really go the extra mile.



**FANTASTIC TOTAL ACHIEVED >**  
Top fundraiser in NZ  
Status: Earth Saving Legend!  
Reward: BMX bike to help keep those emissions down!

**FANTASTIC TOTAL ACHIEVED >**  
Status: Eco Warrior  
Reward: Certificate, t-shirt, no battery needed torch, happy planet!

**FANTASTIC TOTAL ACHIEVED >**  
Status: Planet Protector  
Reward: Certificate, t-shirt, happy planet!

**FANTASTIC TOTAL ACHIEVED >**  
Under \$200  
Status: Climate Champion  
Reward: Certificate, great sense of achievement, happy planet!

Have a look at the Challenge grid on the inside of this brochure and choose a target. To give you an idea we think a target of 1000 would be a good one to go for, but choose something realistic.

My points target is:  points

Now choose a fundraising target.

My fundraising target is: \$

\* Prize will be decided based on which individual has raised the most money by 30 November 2008





Fill out this grid as you go, asking your teacher, a parent or another responsible adult to sign off a box confirming you have completed that task.

TRAVEL (For a 2 way journey)	WHY	POINTS	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
Walk or bike to school or other functions (mall, movies etc.)	One of the best ways to reduce your emissions as your legs run on renewable energy!	60							
Bus to school or other functions	The bus probably has your friends on it! plus it's so much better for the planet than driving.	40							
Carpool to school or other functions	Every extra person in your car helps reduce your emissions	30							
Organise a new ongoing carpooling roster for regular functions	Parents can take it in turns to drive you and your friends (not just you) to your after school functions.	100							
Organise a new ongoing walking bus/cycle group	To get to functions so your parents don't need to drive at all!	100							
Get the car owners in your family to take the fuel saver quiz and find out how much fuel they can save.	Drivers can save up to 20% of their fuel usage and therefore emissions . The quiz can be taken at: <a href="http://www.fuelsaver.govt.nz">www.fuelsaver.govt.nz</a>	50							

AT SCHOOL	WHY	POINTS	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
Complete a worksheet from the Climate Changers Education Pack	Your teacher will have a copy of the CD you need.	30							
Have a break from the tuck shop, take a packed lunch	A huge amount of energy is used in producing disposable packaging. Making your own lunch is one way to reduce that waste.	10							
Switch off lights and appliances at wall	It is still on if it has a clock or little light showing.	20							
Recycle and compost at school where available.	Landfills release methane a potent greenhouse gas. Composting is a better way to deal with organic waste. If there is no facility at school...maybe you can set one up...	30							
Give your classroom an energy efficiency review	Look at the ways your class uses energy. Are there ways it can be reduced? Give your recommendations to the teacher.	100							

AT HOME	WHY	POINTS	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
Switch off appliances at wall	Up to 10% of household energy is wasted by appliances on standby (if it has a clock or little light showing). Don't forget phone chargers, electric toothbrushes and TV's.	20							
Compost/worm farm foodscraps	Landfills release methane a potent greenhouse gas. Composting is a better way to deal with food waste	20							
Build a compost heap or worm farm	Check out: <a href="http://www.sustainability.govt.nz/rubbish/worm-farming">www.sustainability.govt.nz/rubbish/worm-farming</a> OR <a href="http://www.sustainability.govt.nz/rubbish/composting">www.sustainability.govt.nz/rubbish/composting</a>	20							
Change light bulbs to energy efficient bulbs	Energy efficient bulbs use just 20% of the energy of normal bulbs. Each bulb will save your family \$18 per year. Make sure your folks change the bulbs now and not wait until the old bulb has blown! There are eco-friendly spotlights on the market too.	5 per light-bulb							
Eat a meat free meal	Agriculture accounts for around half of NZ's greenhouse gas emissions and forests are often cleared to make way for cattle or animal feed further increasing global emissions.	10							
Eat a dairy free meal	NZ's fastest growing emissions are from our increase in dairying. Forests are cleared to make way for new herds and to grow feed for herds.	10							
Eat a locally produced meal	Lots of fuel is used to transport food all over the world. Also out of season food is often grown in energy intensive glasshouses!	10							
Dry clothes on line rather than using the dryer	Line dried clothes use less energy, smell nicer and crease less. Help out by hanging the clothes out yourself.	30							
Wash your clothes in cold water	Convince your parents to use the cold setting on the washing machine. Most clothes simply don't need to be washed in hot water and washing in cold saves energy and money	40							
Take a short shower instead of a bath	Showers need only take 5 or 10 minutes. Heating is the households largest energy use.	30							
Re-use shopping bags - avoid more plastic bags	If your family always forgets to take bags try storing some in the car so they are always on hand.	10							
Use the Greenpeace Clean Energy Guide to assess if your family has the cleanest electricity provider. If not ask them if you can switch.	By using an electricity provider which produces clean renewable energy you are helping to promote alternative energy sources. You can make the switch online at <a href="http://www.cleanenergyguide.org.nz">www.cleanenergyguide.org.nz</a>	50							
Close the curtains and doors	Just before dusk and close the curtains and close doors to any rooms that people aren't using to keep heat in	10							
Prepare an energy saving plan for your family and advise your parents of ways the family could save energy.	You can use an online carbon calculator such as <a href="http://www.energywise.org.nz">www.energywise.org.nz</a> Or use the Greenpeace brochure "How you can help the climate"	60							
Put a no junk mail sign on letterbox	Just think of all the energy wasted in creating and printing all that paper which goes straight in your (recycle) bin.	10							
Plant your own veggies	The most eco-friendly food is the stuff you grow yourself!	40							
Could you get rid of that second old fridge?	See if the family really needs it and if not find out if you can collect the \$25 government reward for handing it in to be recycled. An extra fridge may be costing your family \$100's every year to run.	40							
Convince family and friends to stop ironing none essential items	So many things don't need ironing e.g. tea towels, pyjamas, sheets etc...	10							
Find out if your family could get a government grant to have insulation installed	To find out visit: <a href="http://www.energywise.govt.nz">www.energywise.govt.nz</a>	50							

GETTING ACTIVE	WHY	POINTS	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
Organise a climate movie lunch break or evening	An Inconvenient Truth is a good movie to host.	80							
Attend an climate movie lunch break or evening	Don't forget your popcorn!	25							
Design/create awareness posters and billboards to put around school and the community	Convince local business owners to host your posters and billboard and send us photos!	60							
Prepare a petition titled "I can't vote but I count! - Do more to Stop Climate Change!"	Send it to all political parties and challenge them to introduce a target of 30% reductions by 2020 following your good example.	80							
Write a letter to all major political parties titled "I can't vote but I count! - Do more to Stop Climate Change!"	Challenge them to introduce a target of 30% reductions by 2020 following your good example. Or ask them to invest in better public transport. Or do both!	60							
Write letters to your local newspaper "I can't vote but I need decision makers to take into account the planet I will inherit..."	Politicians, councilors, business people and other members of the local community all read that letters page. One thing you almost never see is young people being heard in those letters so get emailing and writing!	60							
Take part in a tree planting day	Trees are the earth's lungs - they breathe in CO2 and breathe out oxygen! 20% of all greenhouse gas emissions are as a result of deforestation.	50							
Create an energy saving plan for your Grandparents or other family and friends that you don't live with	You can use an online carbon calculator such as <a href="http://www.energywise.org.nz">www.energywise.org.nz</a> Or use the Greenpeace brochure "How you can help the climate"	60							
Organise a play/concert/trash to fashion show that raises awareness and \$'s for further campaigning	Throughout the show give tips for what people can do to save energy!	80							
Hold an energy savings tip stall at the mall or somewhere public.	Print out Greenpeace brochures with some top energy saving tips or make your own. Ask people to pledge to do certain things - such as change their light bulbs. Remember to send us a photo of your stall!	80							
Take part in one of Greenpeace's email actions	<a href="http://www.greenpeace.org/new-zealand/take-action">www.greenpeace.org/new-zealand/take-action</a>	20							
Use the internet to help raise awareness of taking action on climate change.	Write a blog on any Bebo, Facebook or other social networking site you are a member of. Set up a climate challenge group or post pictures of your challenge activities.	40							
Start a school worm farm /compost heap	For more information on starting a worm farm or compost heap check out: <a href="http://www.sustainability.govt.nz/rubbish/worm-farming">www.sustainability.govt.nz/rubbish/worm-farming</a> OR <a href="http://www.sustainability.govt.nz/rubbish/composting">www.sustainability.govt.nz/rubbish/composting</a>	80							
Meet with your Head Teacher to discuss a CO2 reduction target for your school	Maybe you can put in place a target of 30% reduction by 2020 and set up an action team that includes teachers, parents, students and the school board in putting together the action plan to reach the target.	80							



**TOTAL POINTS:**