

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School



**Subject: Science**

Topic: The Environment

Year: 2

Strand: Biology

## What should I already know?

- The changes across the four seasons.
- The different types of weather associated with the seasons.
- How animals adapt to survive in the winter.
- The changes in the trees throughout Spring and Summer.

## What am I going to learn?

- Wind turbines turn the energy from the wind into electricity.
- Solar panels turn the energy from sunshine into electricity.
- The energy from heat deep underground can be turned into electricity. This is geothermal energy.
- Biomass means 'natural material'. It is burned to create energy.
- Floods, droughts, storms and melting sea ice are all effects of climate change.
- Rainforests are very important for humans, they produce lots of oxygen that we breathe.
- Rainforests are under threat from deforestation.
- Many species of animals are at risk of extinction.



## Vocabulary

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

**Climate:** Climate is the weather. The earth's climate is just right, meaning that things can live on the planet.

**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.

**Atmosphere:** The layer of air surrounding the Earth.

**Greenhouse Gas:** Greenhouse gases are special types of gas in the atmosphere. They let sunlight through but stop heat from escaping, like a greenhouse, so the Earth warms up.

**Energy:** Energy makes everything work.

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

**Non-Renewable:** Non-renewable power sources such as coal, oil and gas can't be replaced once they have been used. Scientists think these are running out.

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

## Investigations

- We will perform a simple test by measuring the time taken for ice to melt in a comparative test.
- We are going to investigate how much water can be saved by turning off the tap whilst washing our hands.

