

UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE: CAUSES, IMPACTS, AND SOLUTIONS

by:

Jonalyn L. De Guzman

Teacher III, Bonifacio Camacho National High School

The goal that should be achieved in the classroom is very clear: it is the provision of the knowledge that will enable the students to make a difference today and in the future. With the students' awareness of the present condition of the world and the means to make a difference, they must leave the classroom not only with the facts but also with a firm belief that they are the ones who can bring about the change.

Climate change is undoubtedly one of the biggest problems that humanity has to face now and it is influencing different sectors like the ecosystem, people, and economies on a global scale. In education, the main goal is to equip students with the appropriate information and skills so they can not only acquire an understanding of climate change but also communicate it to the general public and come up with the necessary actions to mitigate it. Climate change education creates environmental awareness among students and provides them with the skills to manage the natural world to their key role in interventions. This essay examines the relationship between education and the students' awareness of climate change through the exploration of the causes, effects, and possible actions to solve this issue.

Students must understand the reasons behind climate change to deal with it cleverly. Subjects such as biology, physics, and environmental science are most times taught in schools to approach the science side of the climate change problem. Teachers can explain how greenhouse gases are associated with the main cause of climate change. The greenhouse effect is how these gases function like a roof to trap the heat underneath and therefore, global temperatures increase. Cross-disciplinary topics can also be

investigated which take into account the techniques that the industries, agriculture, and cutting of the forests use for production which also adds to climate change.

Both environment and human societies are affected by the deep-rooted and wide-ranging consequences of climate change. Understanding the consequences of climate change is made easier by technology by taking them out into space. Though climate change has its own challenges, education is the main pathway to problem discovery and possible solutions. Education presides over adaptation, which is the preparation and response to the drivers of climate change. While mitigation reduces or stops the greenhouse emissions, adaptation is the preparation and response to the inevitable impacts of climate change. In order to make students understand different pathways, both methods should be given priority in education systems.

Education, indeed, represents one of the most potent tools that should help humans fight this war against climate change. Teachers can start encouraging environmental awareness and a feeling of agency in the next generation by teaching the student why, how, and which are the reasons and their effects on the issue. These children could acquire the abilities for more sustainable and resilient futures through scientific knowledge, critical thinking, and action-oriented learning. What's more, as the debilitating influence of climate change continues to worsen education is bound to play a growing role as students will require skills and solutions to deal with that disaster.

References:

NASA. (2023). Climate Change: How Do We Know? NASA's Global Climate Change Website. <https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/>

UNFCCC. (2023). Climate Action: The Paris Agreement. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement>