

Climate Change Education

The Climate Challenge

Grades 5-12



The Climate Challenge, an active, experiential learning game, teaches students to navigate our changing world. The activity introduces the concepts of climate mitigation and adaptation by providing a glimpse of possible futures. Learners roll the dice and move to stations that require them to address various scenarios, such as mitigating climate change, adapting, or confronting unexpected problems.

Throughout the game, students keep track of what happens to them and evaluate the consequences of their decisions. The activity wraps up with a lively discussion of what happened during the game, and how the results can inform their choices to be part of a solution to climate change. Teachers can extend the discussion in the classroom by assigning research about the scenarios they encountered along the way. The game can be set up indoors or outdoors, with the field of play ranging from a classroom to a giant field or woodland trail.



This program can help students work toward these and other NJ Student Learning Standards Performance Expectations regarding Climate Change:

MS-ESS3-5: Ask questions to clarify evidence of the factors that have caused climate change over the past century.

6.3.5.GeoHE.1: Plan and participate in an advocacy project to inform others about the impact of climate change at the local or state level and propose possible solutions.

6.3.5.CivicsPD.1: Develop an action plan that addresses issues related to climate change and share with school and/or community members.

6.3.8.CivicsPR.4: Use evidence and quantitative data to propose or defend a public policy related to climate change.

8.2.8.ETW.4: Compare the environmental effects of two alternative technologies devised to address climate change issues and use data to justify which choice is best

9.4.8.DC.8: Explain how communities use data and technology to develop measures to respond to effects of climate change

9.4.8.IML.8: Apply deliberate and thoughtful search strategies to access high-quality information on climate change

HS-ESS3-1: Construct an explanation based on evidence for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards and changes in climate have influenced human activity.

HS-ETS1-2: Design a solution to a complex real-world problem by breaking it down into smaller, more manageable problems that can be solved through engineering.