

Lesson 4 Climate Change and You

Weather V Climate – Sort the Statements

This page can be printed and the statements cut out so that students can sort the statements as being linked to weather or climate. **Answers: W = Weather, C = Climate**

Our school weather station measured 22mm of rainfall yesterday (W)	Ireland has mild temperatures all year because of the Atlantic Ocean (C)	Winters in Ireland are usually wet and cool (C)
We noticed frost on the ground this morning (W)	It is 8°C and cloudy outside right now (W)	Ireland experiences a lot of low-pressure systems in winter (C)
Ireland's average July temperature is around 15–20°C (C)	There is a yellow wind warning for the west coast today (W)	The west coast gets more rainfall annually than the east (C)
The prevailing winds in Ireland usually come from the southwest (C)	It was unusually warm in Dublin this afternoon (W)	Temperatures in Ireland have risen by about 1°C over the past century (C)
Over the last 30 years, Ireland has experienced more frequent heavy rainfall events (C)	Last week our school's weather station recorded higher temperatures than the October average (W – although it compares to more long-term trends which would mean climate)	A thunderstorm is expected in Munster tonight (W)
Our weather station predicted heavy rain for tomorrow, but it didn't happen (W – a short term forecast)	Storms like Storm Barra seem to be happening more often in recent years (C – because it refers to a multiyear trend not just one weather event)	Southeasterly winds brought unusually dry conditions to Ireland today (W)

Real time weather statements

Look at information from your school's weather station and come up with your own weather statements for that week.

Examples:

- Today 3mm of rain fell
- The wind direction today was mostly from the southwest

Activity for students with higher ability or TY students

If the school weather station has been in place for long enough and monthly data is available, students can then compare their answers to Ireland's climate averages from Met Eireann. The averages can be found in a story map. There is also a PDF version of this data from Met Eireann included. Students will learn research and data analysis skills when looking through this information. (See "Ireland climate averages 1991 – 2020" report)

Story map available here:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/93cbad5530054f58a6246a44920aa3f3>

Global efforts against Climate Change – Fill in the blanks

Use these words to complete the sentences below:

1.5°C

Emissions

Climate Finance

Climate plans

Global warming

Leaders

Global

Developed countries

Adapt

1. The Kyoto Protocol asked **DEVELOPED COUNTRIES** to cut their greenhouse gas emissions first.
2. The Paris Agreement aims to keep **GLOBAL WARMING** as low as possible.
3. Countries must update their **CLIMATE PLANS** every few years in the Paris Agreement.
4. International agreements try to reduce **EMISSIONS** in order to limit climate change.
5. The Paris Agreement encourages nations to try to stay below **1.5°C** of warming.
6. The Paris Agreement is a **GLOBAL** effort involving almost every country.
7. At COP (Conference of Parties) Meetings, world **LEADERS** meet to discuss climate issues.
8. The Paris agreement encourages countries to **ADAPT** to the impacts of climate change.
9. One key topic at COP is **CLIMATE FINANCE**, which supports poorer countries.

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Extension Activities

Activity One: Linked to Policy

Write 4–6 sentences on one of the following options:

Option A:

Which agreement, Kyoto or Paris, do you think is more effective?
Give two reasons.

Option B:

If you attended COP as a youth representative from Ireland, what climate action would you push for and why?

Option C:

Explain how renewable energy (like wind or solar) helps countries meet their Paris Agreement goals.

Activity Two: Linked to Weather

Use available weather data from your school weather station to graph the following data gathered over a week:

- Wind Speed
- Rainfall
- Temperature
- Atmospheric Pressure

Use the graph to create an infographic about the weather in your local area.