





Climate Change – What Changes for Water





temperature of Earth's surrounding air layer, in other words atmospheric temperature. Climate on Earth is constantly changing, however the changes that were happening in the past were mostly brought about by natural causes (volcanic eruptions, sun's radiation etc).

These changes were happening very slowly over time and the majority of the living organisms had sufficient time to adapt to them. In the recent chronologic period climate change on the Earth, according to scientists, is man-made and is demonstrated by the presence of increased carbon dioxide and other chemical compounds in the atmosphere, the so called "greenhouse effect." A rapid increase in the Earth's atmospheric temperatures is observed in global warming, which creates an unfavorable environment for plants and animals. Having observed this change, scientists fear that due to increased temperature the patterns for snow and rainfall will change. Warmer temperatures will cause more snow and rainfall in some areas, while in other areas droughts will become more frequent. In addition, these changes may be accompanied by more frequent natural disasters, such as floods, hurricanes, landslides and avalanches. The Earth's glaciers will melt faster and as a result, the sea level will rise.

All this will lead to a decline in water availability and quality.

It Is Interesting

Climate scientists think that there were seven warming and cooling periods throughout the existence of the Earth. In our country we have observed melting glaciers due to warming. In the recent years almost one-third of the glaciers in Georgia and Azerbaijan have melted. It is likely that the amount of water in the rivers of Eastern Georgia and Azerbaijan will decrease. This will contribute to a significant shortage of irrigation water for agriculture.

Though combating warming is a complex process and requires a joint effort from all countries, each of us may share in this process.

- Always try to turn off lights at home or at school whenever they are not needed. This will reduce energy consumption and as a result, greenhouse gas emissions. Consumption of electricity should be reduced as much as possible.
- During winter, wear warmer clothes at home, which will allow you to use less energy on heating.
- If you are to travel a short distance, try to walk and ask your parents not to use their cars.
- Reduce water usage. Pay attention to any leakage from water pipes and faucets and get them fixed.

Do It Yourself

- Together with your teacher learn how greenhouse gases are produced and how they are emitted into the atmosphere.
- Think about how it is possible to reduce unnecessary energy consumption in your daily life, consequently reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.
- Share your opinions with your family members, friends and teachers, as well as discussing them among yourselves, and then take action.





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