

6.30 What could happen to New Zealand's climate?

Topic: Conservation
Subtopic: Climate change
Activity type/skill: Identifying information
Literacy focus: Listening
Genre: Information reports

Objective

- Use multiple sources to gain information.

What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)
- [Audio track 6.30](#)

What to do

1. Look at the first page of the student worksheet and explain to students that they will read a text about climate change, then listen to an interview.
2. Before they read or listen, have students look at the statements on the second page of the student worksheet. Explain that they will be asked to tick the circle to say whether they read or heard the information or both.
3. Read the text together and talk about it, then play track 6.30 (Track 7 for this topic) and listen to the interview.
4. Have students talk about their answers in pairs or small groups. Students may want to listen again before they can agree on the correct answers.

Answers:

	Read	Heard
• There will be more severe storms and cyclones in Pacific countries.		✓
• Sea levels will rise as a result of climate change.	✓	✓
• Ice in polar regions will melt.	✓	
• There may be more droughts and water shortages.	✓	✓
• Warm winters will reduce the demand for electricity.		✓
• There will be more pest and disease problems like dengue fever that is carried by mosquitoes.	✓	✓
• New technologies that use solar power, wind energy and wave energy produce no greenhouse gases.		✓
• Some plants and animals that have adapted to current conditions may not survive if their habitats change.	✓	✓
• Using a bike, skateboard or walking to get around are all ways we can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.		✓
• Hotter summers mean we will use more electricity for air conditioning.		✓
• The Kyoto Protocol is an agreement between countries which want to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.		✓
• Reducing the amount of electricity we use in our homes can help reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions.		✓

Extending the activity

- Find out more on the internet, for example, www.teachers.ash.org.au/jmresources/climate/change.htm.
- Ask students how they think climate change will affect their countries.

Climate change

What could happen to New Zealand's climate in the future?

Scientists expect that. . .

Our weather patterns will change:

- average temperatures will increase
- there could be more heavy rain – some places could have floods
- higher temperatures mean more evaporation – some places could have droughts



The sea level will rise. Oceans will spread out and ice in the polar regions will melt:

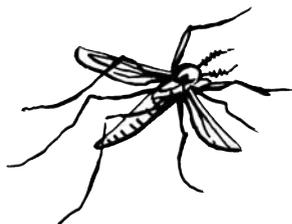
- low coastal areas could be flooded
- beaches could be damaged or destroyed
- water supplies could become polluted by flooding

There could be water shortages:

- water supplies would decrease during droughts

There could be more pests and diseases:

- insects like mosquitoes could reach a warmer New Zealand and spread tropical diseases like malaria and dengue fever
- warmer, wetter weather could spread pests and diseases to fruit trees and crops



The habitats of plants and animals will change:

- some fish could move to different parts of the sea
- some plants that like warm weather could grow in more places
- some plants could not survive if their habitats change and the birds and insects that depend on them would lose their homes



Activity thirty



Track 7

		Read	Heard
1	There will be more severe storms and cyclones in Pacific countries.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	Sea levels will rise as a result of climate change.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	Ice in polar regions will melt.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	There may be more droughts and water shortages.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	Warm winters will reduce the demand for electricity.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	There will be more pest and disease problems like dengue fever that is carried by mosquitoes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	New technologies that use solar power, wind energy and wave energy produce no greenhouse gases.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	Some plants and animals that have adapted to current conditions may not survive if their habitats change.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	Using a bike, skateboard or walking to get around are all ways we can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	Hotter summers mean we will use more electricity for air conditioning.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11	The Kyoto Protocol is an agreement between countries which want to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12	Reducing the amount of electricity we use in our homes can help reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>