

National Climate Assessment: A Dynamic Resource for Bringing Climate Science Into Classrooms!

What is the National Climate Assessment?



The National Climate Assessment (NCA) Report is an important resource to help you understand and learn and teach about climate change science and impacts in your part of the country. Find data and graphics that show observed changes, the current status of the climate, and anticipated trends for the future.

The information in the NCA will help students learn about the state of the climate system, prepare for climate change impacts, and help you understand how everyday decisions impact the climate and the environment.

NCA key objectives:

- Evaluating, integrating, and assessing relevant climate science and information from multiple sources
- Summarizing and synthesizing the findings of the U.S. Global Change Research Program
- Increasing understanding of what is known and not known about climate change
- Informing climate science research priorities
- Building climate assessment capacity, including vulnerability assessment and documentation of impacts in regions and sectors
- Supporting climate-literacy and skilled use of NCA findings

What topics does it cover?

The Third NCA Report (NCA3) documents how climate change impacts regions (depicted on the map below) and sectors across the United States and society's responses to climate change.



- Our changing climate
- Water resources
- Energy supply and use
- Transportation
- Agriculture
- Forests
- Ecosystems and biodiversity
- Human health
- Water, energy and land use
- Urban
- Indigenous peoples, lands, and resources
- Land use and land cover change
- Rural communities
- Biogeochemical cycles
- Oceans
- Coastal zone
- Decision support
- Mitigation
- Adaptation

Read the National Climate Assessment www.globalchange.gov

Release Date: Spring 2014

How can educators use the National Climate Assessment with their students and visitors?

The third National Climate Assessment (NCA) report creates a new scientific foundation for educators to bring these important subjects into classrooms.

- The NCA includes climate impacts and projections and assesses progress in response activities such as adaptation, mitigation and decision making.
- NCA report allows for easier access to data for citizens and scientists and transparent “line of sight” between data and conclusions.
- This NCA report will be submitted as an interactive PDF and the entire report (including access to underlying data and resources) will be available via globalchange.gov
- Climate.gov’s Teaching Climate section helps you find reviewed CLEAN educational resources for specific grades, courses, or learning situations (<http://www.climate.gov/teaching>)



Teaching Climate?

To protect fragile ecosystems and to build sustainable communities that are resilient to climate change—including extreme weather and climate events—a climate-literate citizenry is essential. Being climate literate improves our ability to make decisions about activities that increase vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and to take precautionary steps in our lives and livelihoods that would reduce those vulnerabilities.

Climate Literacy Guide, 2009



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