

One School One Planet Worksheet

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Producing a Graph of the Paris Agreement

Drawing the graph of change

This graph is only made of three simple lines, yet it could be the most important agreement that the World has ever made.

195 countries agreed to sign this agreement in December 2015, it was ratified the next year and comes fully in to force in 2020.

Nicaragua, one of the two who didn't sign has since done so, in September 2017. This leaves only Syria, which has been consumed by civil war since 2012 and has not been engaged in the discussions. Even they have since indicated they intend to work to its targets.

Although Trump, once he became president has said he wants USA to withdraw this process cannot begin until 2020 when his presidency will be nearly over. Individual US states such as California and Hawaii have already said they agree to abide by the agreement even if their Federal government doesn't.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the agreement is not the targets themselves but the fact that it is the first time the whole world has agreed to such a long term and all encompassing agreement.

Hitting all of targets in the agreement scientists say, will still only gives us a 2/3 chance of avoiding a climate disaster.

98% of the worlds climate scientists support these targets, many warn that they are not ambitious enough. *There are no dissenting voices remaining in the scientific community, science is more certain about climate change than it is about gravity or the fact that smoking causes cancers.*

The only debate that remains on the subject is just how bad it really is and how urgent is the response we need to make!

The minimum the world needs to achieve is these targets.. we probably need to do much better.

Activity, Draw the graph of the Paris targets and discuss what the implications maybe of some of the huge changes we need to make.

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Draw a graph to map three key measurements.

1. Emissions
2. Technology
3. Farming

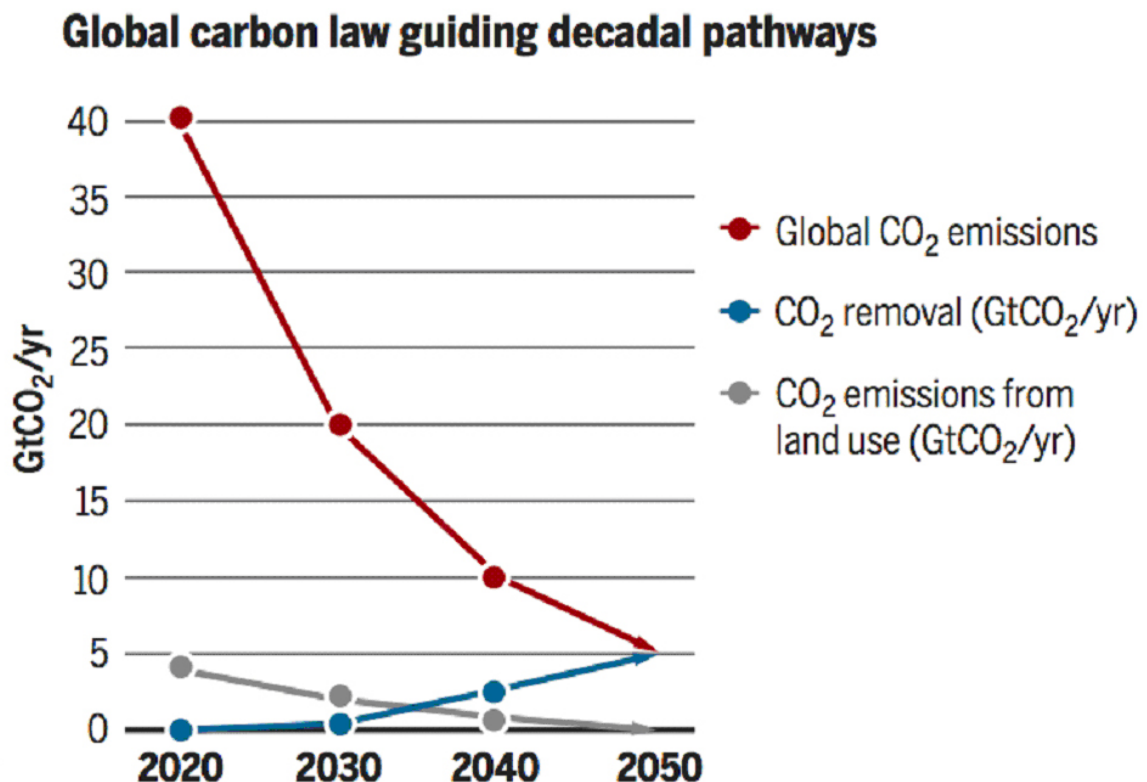
Emissions = Global CO₂ emissions produced by human activity.

Technology = This is a prediction of the contribution of technology to find ways to extract and store carbon dioxide from the atmosphere (known as carbon sequestration)

The X or horizontal axis will chart the years, it needs to have a scale from 2020 – 50

Y axis or vertical measures emissions levels and needs to be between 40,000, to 0 in increments of 5,000

	2020	2030	2040	2050
Emissions	40,000	20,000	10,000	5,000
Technology	0	1,000	3,000	5,000
Farming	5,000	3,000	1,000	0



With any time remaining, write down any questions or points you might like to raise regarding the issues raised by this activity and post them in the questions box. We will raise these points in the next session.