

# What Does Climate Change Look Like to You?

## Description

*What Does Climate Change Look Like to You?* is a drawing activity that elicits a visual response from participants and can be done either individually or in a group. By asking participants to draw a response to the prompt “What does climate change look like to you?” a broad interpretation of the term can be depicted and serve to facilitate further discussion.

## Group Size and Space Needed

This activity is flexible, and can accommodate large groups, or be used for one-on-one surveys. There should be enough seating and table space for each participant to comfortably draw, and you may want to arrange seating in a circle to facilitate discussion.

## Time Needed

About 60-90 minutes, depending on the size of the group.

## Materials Needed

For each participant, you will need printed out worksheets (or blank sheets of plain paper) and drawing materials for participants to share (i.e. crayons, colored pencils, markers).

## Facilitator Needs

The facilitator should be comfortable encouraging participation from all members of the group, while graciously managing the sharing of the more vocal participants.

## Note Taker and Photographer

- Someone who can take good notes throughout the activity. This will be important for later on when you are ready to identify common themes or issues that came out of the drawings.

- If you plan to do any kind of presentation or demonstration of the work produced, it is a good idea to arrange for a photographer to document this activity. S/he should take photos of the participants drawing, group discussions, and the drawings themselves.

## Instructions

Pass out *What Does Climate Change Look Like to You?* worksheets to each participant. Facilitators may use the attached worksheet, which is designed to protect the participant confidentiality. It allots a space to code each participant's name, instructions to include captions for drawings, participants' ages, and no full names. Facilitators may use these worksheets, or simply use blank sheets of paper.

Explain that the goal of the exercise is to form an understanding about what climate change means to each participant, if anything. Remind participants that there is no right or wrong answer, and encourage everyone to just have fun and draw the first thing that comes to mind.

**Possible questions prompts:** What does climate change look like? If you were walking around and bumped into it – what would it look like? Or, close your eyes and think about climate change, what do you see?

**Please Share Your Thoughts:** Once participants have been given enough time to finish up their drawings (usually 20-30 minutes) have them share their drawing and what it means by writing a caption to their drawing on the back of the piece of paper. Ask participants to add their age, but **no names**. Write a corresponding participant code on the corner of the drawing. For example, codes can be the participant's initials; they should be determined before the activity, so the facilitators have an organized record of which drawings belong to which participant.

Use the last 10-15 minutes to sum up key themes that emerged and ask what recommendations the participants have for taking better care of the environment and their communities.

**To download this tool, visit:** <http://fieldmuseum.org/explore/department/ecco/downloads>  
If you have any questions, concerns, or requests for hard copies of the tools, please contact Jennifer Hirsch at [jhirsch@fieldmuseum.org](mailto:jhirsch@fieldmuseum.org).

WHAT DOES  
“CLIMATE CHANGE”  
LOOK LIKE TO YOU?

Participant Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add a caption to your drawing! Include your age — but no names, please!