

Impacts of climate change



A view of Muir glacier, Alaska, in 1941



A view of Muir glacier in 2004

LO: to understand the effects of climate change on people and the environment.

Do now

Whilst watching the National Geographic video (Causes and effects of climate change) fill in the blank spaces and answer the questions. Q and A to follow.



The video is embedded into
the website
www.garsidej.wordpress.com.

Impacts of climate change

Impacts in the UK

Global warming can have **negative impacts** on the UK:

- sea levels could rise, covering low lying areas, in particular east England
- droughts and floods become more likely as extreme weather increases
- increased demand for water in hotter summers puts pressure on water supplies

However, there are some **positive impacts** from a warmer UK climate:

- crops such as oranges, grapes and peaches can be grown in the UK
- winter heating costs will be reduced as winters will be milder
- accidents on the roads in winter will be less likely to occur

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC HAS produced a new map, detailing what the planet would look like if all land ice melted and went into the sea.



In the UK, London would be subsumed by the Thames and the English Channel, while on continental Europe, The Netherlands would be a distant memory.

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Impacts around the world

Negative impacts of global warming around the world:

- sea level rise will affect 80 million people
- tropical storms will increase in magnitude (strength)
- species in affected areas (e.g. Arctic) may become extinct
- diseases such as malaria increase, an additional 280 million people may be affected

There are also some **positive impacts** of a warmer climate around the world:

- energy consumption may decrease due to a warmer climate
- longer growing season for agriculture
- frozen regions such as Canada may be able to grow crops

