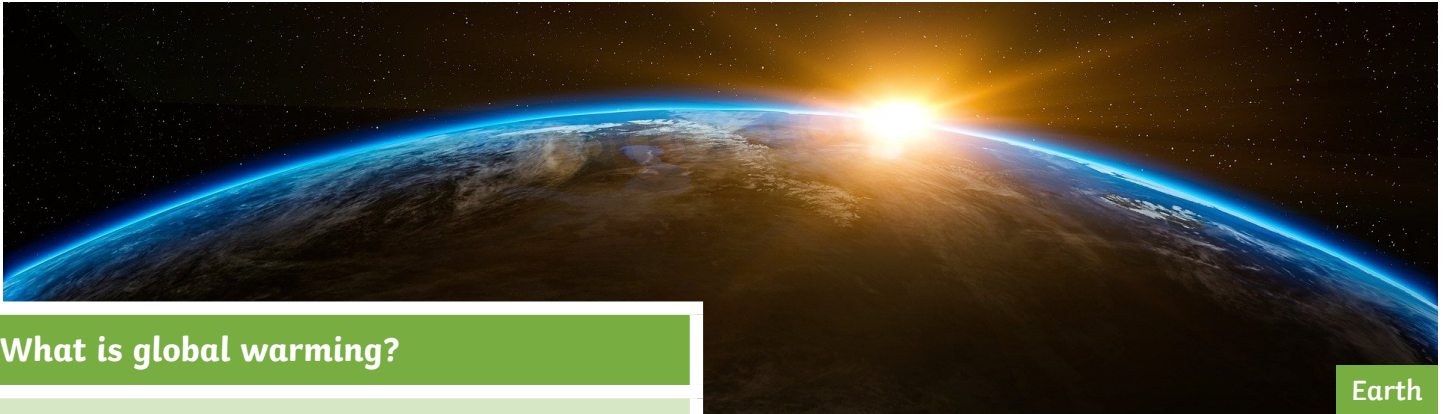




COP26: What Was Agreed?



Earth

What is global warming?

- **The steady increase in the Earth's temperature caused by humans putting too many greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Some people also call it climate change.**
- **It's causing glaciers and polar ice to melt leading to rising sea levels. Extreme weather events, such as hurricanes, floods and wildfires are also becoming more common.**

World leaders from all across the globe have finished meeting for this year's COP.

They met to talk about what can be done to tackle global warming.

Agreements have been made between many countries to stop **deforestation**, cut methane **emissions** and phase out the use of coal.

If these things are acted on in the next few years, it will help prevent some global warming.

Over 100 countries promised to end deforestation by 2030.

Forests are able to absorb one-third of all the **CO₂** created by burning fossil fuels. That's why growing more trees and protecting forests can help tackle climate change.

Billions of dollars will be used to help restore forested land and tackle wildfires too.

More than 100 countries have also promised to reduce methane emissions by 30% in the next 10 years.

When fighting climate change, there is a lot of

effort going into cutting carbon.

Carbon emissions add to global warming and NASA says the **CO₂** we add to the atmosphere hangs around for up to 1000 years.

Methane is another greenhouse gas but only stays in the atmosphere for around 10-20 years.

However, over a 20 year period, methane has 84 times the global warming power of carbon dioxide.

The US president, Joe Biden, said cutting methane emissions as quickly as possible was "one of the most important things we can do."

More than 40 countries at COP26 said they'd stop using coal to **generate** electricity.

Around a third of all the electricity in the world is currently generated by burning coal. However, it's the single largest thing adding to global warming.

COP26 has shown that people all over the world are working hard to fight global warming.

Glossary

deforestation	Cutting down trees to make space for things such as farming or housing.
emissions	The release of gases into the atmosphere.
CO₂	Carbon dioxide - a greenhouse gas.
generate	Create; make.

Questions

1. According to the article, by how much did over 100 countries agree to reduce methane emissions in the next ten years?

2. Tick to show whether the statement is true or false according to the article.

	True	False
Carbon dioxide has 84 times the global warming power of methane.		
The CO ₂ we add to the atmosphere stays there for up to 1000 years.		
Global warming has caused more extreme weather events.		
Over 100 countries promised to end deforestation by 2050.		

3. Summarise the key information in the article using 15 words or fewer.

4. Which **two** of the following definitions is closest in meaning to the word 'atmosphere' as it is used in the paragraph beginning: **It causes global warming... (tick two)**

The air we breathe.

The layer of gases surrounding a planet.

The mood or feeling of a place.

The pressure something is under.

5. Use the fact box to help you find and copy **two** things which are caused by global warming.

1. _____

2. _____

6. Which of the agreements made at COP26 do you think will do the most to help slow global warming? Explain your answer.
