

Decoding Carbon: A Climate Policy Quest



Activity 7:

How does Canada Contribute to Global GHG Emissions?

Learning Outcomes

- Students will understand Canada’s historic and current emissions relative to other countries.
- Students will explore and answer the question “Considering Canada’s emissions relative to other countries, why should Canada act on climate change?”

Curriculum Connections

- Grade 10 Science
- Grade 10 - 12 Environmental Science in British Columbia
- Grade 10 - 11 Social Studies in Alberta
- Grade 12 Canada & World Studies in Ontario

Length of Activity

- 1 to 1.5 hours

Materials List

- Topic Backgrounder
- Activity Worksheet
- Activity Answer Key
- Marking Rubric
- Internet Enabled Device

Activity

Step 1: Read out the following text to your class **(5 minutes)**

Climate change is a global issue, affecting all countries in the world to varying degrees. By understanding the concept of Climate Injustice, in the activity “Building a Low Carbon Future: The Need for Collective Action” we learned that many countries that are not responsible for emitting greenhouse gases to the atmosphere are paying a heavy price for the consequences of climate change. This poses a moral question of what role each country, including Canada, should play in addressing the negative impacts caused by climate change?

The first step in addressing this question is investigating the amount of greenhouse gas emissions made by Canada to the global atmosphere.

Step 2: Individual or group activities

1. Working in groups, students will explore Canada's emissions compared to the world by using the tool provided by Climate Watch, [link to tool](#) **(15 minutes)**
2. Students will download the Activity 7 Worksheet. Using the tool, students will record their findings in the worksheet. Students will find out the countries that make up the top 5 emitters category, listing their names and emissions individually. **(40 minutes)**
3. Students will download Activity 7 Worksheet. Using the tool provided by Climate Watch, students will find out where Canada ranks in the world in its total GHG emissions and its per capita GHG emissions. Have students record their findings in the table below. **(15 minutes)**
4. Students will make an individual journal entry reflecting on the question: "Considering Canada's emissions relative to other countries, do you think Canada should act on climate change - why or why not?" Entry should be one page maximum. **(10 minutes)**