

Read the information about the COP26 summit found below. What kinds of decisions do you think might be reached at the event? Do you think more could or should be done?

What is COP26?

COP26 is the name of the meeting for world leaders taking place in November 2021 in the UK. Nations will meet to discuss how they can work together to tackle climate change.

COP stands for 'Conference of the Parties'. These parties are the 197 countries that have signed up to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The aim is to prevent human activity from causing dangerous levels of climate change. Every time the member nations meet to look at the current state of the climate and to discuss the actions they will take to address climate change, it is called a COP.



What is climate change?

Climate change happens when patterns of weather across the world change over time. This can happen naturally, such as in the instance of volcanic eruptions and ocean currents, which can cause climate change to happen slowly or for a short time. But for over 50 years now, scientists have been noticing that climate change is happening much quicker. This is influencing lots of living things all over the world, in forests, oceans, grasslands and lots of other natural habitats (places where animals live).

What can we do about climate change?

Below are 5 examples of things suggested by BBC Futures that we can all do to help tackle climate change:

1. Make your voice heard by those in power
2. Leave the car at home
3. Reduce your energy use, and bills
4. Respect and protect green space
5. Cut consumption – and waste.