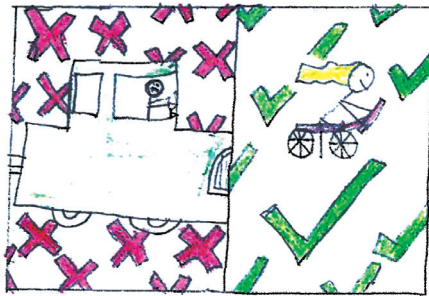


# The Carbon Creature and other poems



Climate Change Poetry by  
Primary and Middle School Children  
from Worcestershire & Warwickshire

## Introduction

The poems in this book were composed by children from Worcestershire and Warwickshire schools for a Switch it Off! week poetry writing competition in 2009. Switch it Off! in schools is designed as a launch for longer term work on energy rather than a one off! All poems provide an insight into children and young people's views on climate change in the run up to the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009. Many of the children also wrote letters to their local MP, to voice their concerns about climate change and the environmental problems their generation is likely to face over their lifetime. The poetry book was supported by The Pod, EDF Energy's programme for greener schools ([www.jointhepod.org/join-in](http://www.jointhepod.org/join-in)). The project also contributed to schools work on the international Eco Schools Award programme ([www.eco-schools.org.uk](http://www.eco-schools.org.uk)) and to the delivery of the English curriculum.

## Switch it Off week

Switch it Off week aims to raise awareness about energy efficiency and how making small changes to our habits can make a big difference when looking at the larger picture. Switch it Off week is organised by Worcestershire County Council, Warwickshire County Council and Coventry City Council with support from Act on Energy.

More information on Switch it Off can be found at

[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/switchitoff](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/switchitoff)

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/switchitoff](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/switchitoff)

[www.coventry.gov.uk/switchitoff](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/switchitoff)



switch it off...  
don't just 'stand by' and waste energy



## Unknown

By Hannah Robinson, St Nicholas CE Middle School

Pene Lafale.

A name

From the other side of the world

You don't know me

I don't know you

But

Because of

YOU

I will have to leave this place I call

Home

Another land

Unknown

I have no concept of your

Electricity

Clean water from this thing you call a

Tap

Sprays to make you smell nice

Rooms to make your food cold

Cars that make you lazy and

Fat

Choked

The waters

Are

Rising

I have to go now

The boat is

Coming

Goodbye

## *Let's act now*

By Ryan Bamford, Burlish Park Primary School

Lets act now  
Before it's too late  
Mother earth  
Our good mate.

Let's act now  
The heat is rising  
Let's not sit here  
Compromising.

Let's act now  
Stop electric burning  
Or this old world  
Will just stop turning

## *The Carbon Creature*

By Joshua Houghton, Astley CE Primary School

The carbon creature ruled the world,  
Commanded all the boys and girls.  
Men and women all despaired; it had the human race ensnared.

This pitch black beast, born from pollution,  
Was a monster of a problem with no solution.  
The government said that nothing was wrong,  
As the carbon creature sang its corruptive song.

Then one person, but only one,  
Was brave enough to take it on.  
For all short journeys he walked or cycled,  
And all possible waste he recycled.

Newspapers, bottles, cartons and tins,  
Peelings and cuttings in the compost bin.  
He switched off his lights and unplugged appliances,  
He was an expert in the eco sciences.

He voiced his opinions to people he knew,  
So did they and his influence grew.  
The carbon creature winced in pain,  
For his loss was their well deserved gain.

Many others followed his lead,  
This man had sown a worthy seed.  
Soon the whole town was eco friendly  
Saving money as well as energy.

This effect spread from place to place,  
The lid was now shut on this case.  
The earth rejoiced, its eco mission completed,  
The carbon creature was defeated.

## Pollution

By Michael Butler, Abbey Park Middle School

Pollution says: bad  
Animals say: dead  
Water says: dry  
Oil says: holes  
Fire says: smoke

Wars say: destroy  
Gases say: heat  
Dump says: rubbish  
Rubbish says: rats

We need to stop it now  
Before it gets too hot

Gases make the earth  
As hot as the sun

Flowers will cry  
Crops will die

Earth say Goodbye

## The Future

By Sarah-Jane Jakson, Powick Primary School

The future is ruled by hurricanes, tsunamis and more,  
The extinction of the world knocking on the door,  
Every tree, bush, animal and flower,  
Will slowly, slowly loose its power.

Every dormouse, koala, bear and snake,  
From it its power you will take,  
Relax and sit back we should not do,  
For the future is controlled by you!

Now is the time to take action,  
Not just doing a fraction,  
Killing all with fur or feather,  
And with leaves like laburnum and heather.

Leaves are falling all around,  
Now they're staying on the ground,  
This time no more will grow,  
You can stop this it's time to say no.

So electricity we should not use,  
For the planet it does abuse,  
Please help us save the planet,  
And all the sea birds like the Gannet.

All things you take from me,  
Kill off a little thing like a bee,  
And when all life on earth goes,  
The destroying of the world will come to a close.

## *Greed*

By Sam Branford, Astley CE Primary School

I gave you hair to keep you warm  
You created central heating,

I gave you eyes to watch others,  
You now watch television,

I gave you ears to listen to everyone,  
You created MP3 players,

I gave you a nose to smell the world,  
You made smoke to pollute it,

I gave you hands to forage for food,  
You created shops to stop you foraging,

I gave you legs and feet to walk,  
You made cars that give off CO<sub>2</sub>,

So use your brain to stop electricity destroying our world

## *Save the Planet*

By Catherine Coalthard, Astley CE Primary School

Listen up you far and near  
It's time to make myself sound clear  
Stop that drip, Switch off that light  
We need to save energy – right!  
Take a shower, don't take a bath  
Don't waste water, choose the right path.  
Only boil the water you need  
So get the right message, let's sow the seed.  
We need to save the world's resources,  
Let's pull together and join forces.

## Save the Planet

By Emmie Bewley, St Nicholas CE Middle School

Polar bears frowning as their icebergs melt.  
Villagers drowning as the floods they're dealt.  
Burnt-up grass, no rain for years.  
Life is dying, only water is tears.  
How's this happening? We all know why.  
Waste less, burn less, don't just cry.  
Use your legs don't drive all day.  
Switch your lights off, less to pay.  
Eat less red meat, keep less cows.  
Switch your taps off, make fresh vows.  
Don't buy new if your old stuff's good.  
Our Earth is small, save its wealth we should.  
The future is ours, everyone can share.  
In saving the planet – all it takes is care.

## I couldn't be bothered

By Tom Main, Parkside Middle School

I couldn't be bothered  
When Mum told me to recycle the cans  
I couldn't be bothered  
When the man told me to pick up my litter

I couldn't be bothered  
When I was told to turn off the lights  
"Switch them to low wattage bulbs"  
I couldn't be bothered

I couldn't be bothered  
When I was told to stop creating CO<sub>2</sub>  
I couldn't be bothered  
Why can't you stop making me to?

Now I'm bothered  
When the world is deathly bare  
Now I'm bothered  
When fumes poison the air

Now I'm bothered  
We needed to do something fast  
Now I'm bothered  
Now I'm bothered

## When the lights went out

By Shannon Murphy, Charford First School

When the lights went out everything stopped...

The computer stopped typing  
The sausages stopped sizzling  
The phone stopped ringing  
And the radio stopped singing

When the lights went out everything stopped...

The clock stopped ticking  
The dryer stopped drying  
The kettle stopped rattling  
And the world...  
Started cooling

## Beat The Problem!

By Eleanor Dobson, Pitmaston Primary School

The sky was bright the sky was blue  
And now the decision is up to you.

The colours of day the colours of night  
You are preventing future sight.

If you carry on like nothing is wrong

The sweetest of people will not have a song.

The singing and dancing will not be there then

The only thing to talk about is what, where, when.

When was the problem why did it not stop

Didn't it remind them when they looked at the clock.

The ice caps are melting, cold countries are hot

The world will die no matter what.

My dream is sweet my nightmare is sour

So just think about this for at least an hour.

People in Africa are dying each day

When you and your friends eat caviar canapé.

The sky was bright the sky was blue

And now the decision is up to you.

So beat the problem!

## Is it too late?

By Cliona Gordon, Holy Redeemer RC Primary, School

Is it too late?  
To take back our beautiful planet?  
Where trees swayed in the cool breeze  
and birds had freedom to fly.  
Is it too late?  
We were once proud of our planet,  
Where we enjoyed our lives,  
With pure water and clean air.  
Is it too late?  
Electricity output soars.  
Greenhouse gases rise.  
Is it too late?  
It's not too late to walk to school?  
It's not too late to switch it off.  
It's not too late!  
Yet!

## Floods

By Nicole Duffield-Ford, Cranham Primary School

A flood is muddy.  
It sounds like rushing water.  
It tastes like a swamp.  
It smells like waste.  
It looks gigantic.  
It makes me feel like crying.

## The Oil Rig

By Michael Lewis, Oldbury Park Primary School

The oil rig is a rampaging dragon  
Black and destructive  
Waving his tentacles under the sea  
To search for oil.

Over time, he drains and devours  
The earth's valuable oil.  
He is pure evil.

He turns the beautiful seas  
Into rivers of cargo and oil.  
He turns the delicate rocks  
Into dissolved particles.

## My New Bike

By Sophie Brotherton, Vale of Evesham School

Do not use your car,  
Ride your bike to school,  
Save your petrol, save the planet,  
That's my eco rule!  
I'm getting a new bike for my birthday,  
I can't wait for it to arrive,  
I will recycle my old cycle,  
I want my world to survive.

## Eco-Schools Poem

By 10 children on the Eco-Committee, aged 6-11,  
writing together, Coten End Primary School

At Coten End we do our best,  
to put our knowledge to the test.  
So we have formed an Eco-Committee,  
who got together to write this ditty!

Here at school we love to learn,  
About fossil fuels we seem to burn.  
But is this a sensible thing to do?  
Soon they will run out for me and you.

Turn the lights and computers off,  
To give them a rest, they've had enough!  
Saving electricity is our goal,  
So help us out and save some coal.

We recycle paper in our red bins,  
And the staff recycle all of their tins.  
'But what about batteries', I hear you ask,  
Well we've got it in hand, that's our task.

Saving water, valuable to us,  
Turn off the taps, that's a must.  
Into our water butt the rain does run,  
So water the flowers and have some fun!

Litter is another problem,  
Check the school grounds and check them often.  
Our wildlife here is much too treasured,  
It's importance to us can't be measured.

Let's plant those seeds to grow our food,  
It might even put you in a good mood.  
Growing your own is healthy too,  
Try some organic food, we do!

We are the generation of the future here,  
So listen loud and listen clear.  
Wind power, wave power, nuclear too,  
There is lots of research for us to do..

Sustainability is our aim,  
It's not a joke, it's not a game.  
So go ahead and do your best,  
Put your knowledge to the test.

## A poem on climate change

By Jack Evans, year 6,  
St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

The television speaks to me in a funny kind of way,  
It wants me to switch it off and go outside and play!

The PS3 gives me a funny look,  
It wants me to go away and read a book.  
The house cries when it's all lit up inside,  
"Turn the lights off it's still light outside".  
The car outside tries to hide,  
"Look in the garage there's a bike to ride".

All of this is making the earth really hot,  
Soon we'll feel like we're in an oven in a big cooking pot.

The seas are rising which makes me frown,  
If we don't watch out we're all going to drown.

To make all this energy we cut down all the trees,  
Which takes away the homes of all the animals and bees.  
What would earth be like without all the creatures we see?

I think it would be lonely without them, you or me.

When people waste energy I don't find it funny,  
Because not only could they save the earth, they could save lots of money.

So come everyone, let's be smart and do our part!

## Climate Change

By Fiona Kelly, year 4, St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

The world we live in is really great,  
But the climate is changing at quite a rate.  
We all need to help turn things around.  
Or our world could be turned upside down.

Let's make a start by walking to school,  
Passing on our old clothes, books, toys and shoes.  
Saying no to bags when shopping for food  
Saying yes to anything that we can reuse.

Let's turn off the taps when we brush our teeth  
Let's leave off the heating, put a vest underneath!  
Buy recycled products, stop throwing away  
If we all try together, our planet may be okay.

## Climate Change

By Callum Bailey, year 3, St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

The Earth is getting warmer  
Ice caps are getting smaller.  
The Sea will start to overflow  
Trees and plants won't want to grow.  
We need to use less water and power.  
Don't have a bath have a shower.  
We should always turn off the Wii and also turn off the TV.  
Turning the heating down may seem strange  
But we all need to help to reduce climate change.

## *A present for the future*

By Lauren Harris, year 4, St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

As the sun shines in the pale blue sky  
As the puffy white clouds slowly pass by  
I wonder what this world will one day become  
if we ignore nature's warnings of global warming.

If we all just tried a little more  
to reduce our own footprints and keep better score.

To walk, not drive. To recycle and reuse.  
Make do and mend. Save not spend.

Turn off your taps. Take your own bags.  
Do more home cooking, use all your scraps.  
Shop for recycled, switch off your lights.

Then this world should have a future that will always be bright!

## *Charlotte's Carbon Footprint,*

By Charlotte Cowdrill, year 4, St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

My Footprint is my TV when it's left on all night.  
My Footprint is when I don't turn off my light.  
My Footprint is my DS when I leave it on too long.  
My Footprint is my DVD when I leave it on it's wrong.

My Footprint is going in the car.  
My Footprint not to walk when it's not too far.  
My Footprint is not to waste too much.  
My Footprint is the water that's not too hot to touch.

My Footprint is my shopping bag when it's not thrown away.  
My Footprint is a paper I don't recycle for another day.  
My Footprint is what I leave behind.  
My carbon footprint is left for my family to find.

## Climate Change

By Connor Macfarlane, year 4,  
St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

Climate change affects us all  
But we can all make a difference no matter how small  
Check your shopping, do you need all that?  
If the answer is no then put some back  
Too much rubbish is thrown away  
Buy what you need for day to day  
Many people have a car  
But it's best to walk or ride your bike when not going far  
Responsibility is ours, it's everyone's doing  
So think about our world before it goes to ruin...!!!

## Autumn Writing Challenge

By Harriet Black, year 3, St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

I go into my garage,  
What do I see?

The three red recycle bins,  
One – two – three.

To recycle helps our planet,  
The help starts from me!

Dad rides his bike to work,  
To help keep our air clean.

Mum makes us walk to school each day:  
I sometimes say, "That's mean!"

I'm glad my family are helping  
to keep the environment clean.

## Climate Change

By Lee Barrow, year 6, St Margaret's School, Whitnash

Our planet is in trouble,  
It's gonna be a mess  
Things are getting grim  
Can we do anything? YES.  
Try switching off the lights  
That you don't need  
All that wasted energy  
That's called greed.

"Switch me off, switch me off"  
"This is not fun"  
"The world is getting warmer"  
"Just like the sun"  
Shouted the light  
With such anger and fright.

"Hey don't chuck me in the bin"  
Said the cardboard tube.  
"Put me in the recycling bin"  
"With that paper cube".

"Drip drip"  
"Don't go for a dip"  
"Use me instead"  
Said the shower head.

IT'S TIME TO SAVE OUR WORLD  
WHILE WE HAVE A CHANCE  
ACT ON IT NOW  
CLIMATE CHANGE.

## Earth Poem

By Anya Lee, year 5, St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

This planet Earth is our home,  
It's where we live, is our home,  
It's where we live  
It's where we grow, upon home.

Wars, destruction, death, disease,  
This has to stop, so end it please.  
Beautiful mountains, beautiful seas,  
Beautiful rainforests, beautiful trees.

I'm proud to call this Earth my home,  
It's where I live, it's where I grow.

## Environment Poem

By Leah Bolt, year5, St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

Look outside, see the trees  
Watch the flowers in the breeze  
Let's hope things won't always be the same  
Too much hurt, suffering and pain.

Walk to school  
Don't use your car  
Doing this is better for your heart

Use low energy bulbs, and turn off lights  
Saving the planet, stand up and fight.

When doing your weekly shop  
Remember what you should always pop  
Reusable bags in your car  
This will help the environment by far.

Animals in the wilderness  
Bears at the pole  
Saving the planet  
Is everyone's goal.

Follow these simple rules  
And where we live will be so COOL!

## Save our Planet!

By Madison Wellman, year 4, St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

If you want to save our planet,  
You must do these simple things  
Switch your DS and your phone off  
When you're at the swings.

If you want to save our planet,  
You must do these simple things  
Try to reuse all your rubbish  
Don't put it in the bin.

If you want to save our planet,  
You must do these simple things  
Take your bike and leave your old car  
Hear your bell ding-a-ling.

If you want to save our planet  
And you can do simple things  
There's still time to work together  
So the world can sing.

## Untitled poem

By Alys Savery, Year 5 St Margarets CE Junior School, Whitnash

We really must stop there being masses of gasses and be clever  
with the weather  
And it's not very hard to recycle plastic, paper and card,  
we must get together  
To change the weather  
And make sure it stays that way for ever!  
Don't waste water please  
And don't forget the trees!  
We're losing all our bees  
We must do all this a lot  
To stop it getting hot!

## Thank you

to all schools who submitted an excellent  
variety of climate poems.

### **From Warwickshire;**

Kingsbury School, Kingsbury  
St Margarets C of E Junior School, Whitnash  
Coten End Primary School, Warwick  
Welcombe Hills School, Stratford Upon Avon  
Ashlawn School, Rugby

### **From Worcestershire:**

Pitmaston Primary School, Worcester  
St Catherine's CE Primary School, Kidderminster  
Astley CE Primary School, Stourport-on-Severn  
St John's CE Primary School, Kidderminster  
Red Hill Primary School, Worcester  
Welland Primary School, Malvern  
Abbey Park Middle School, Pershore  
Cranham Primary School, Worcester  
Upton-upon-Severn C E Primary School, Upton-Upon-Severn  
Oldbury Park Primary School, Worcester  
Holywell Primary School, Rubery  
Parkside Middle School, Bromsgrove  
Broadheath CE Primary School, Worcester  
Charford First School, Bromsgrove  
Vale of Evesham School, Evesham  
Holy Redeemer Catholic Primary School, Pershore  
Powick CE Primary School, Malvern  
Nunnery Wood High School, Worcester  
Burlish Park Primary School, Stourport-on-Severn  
St Nicholas CE Middle School, Pinvin  
Hindlip CE First School, Worcester  
Longdon St Mary's CE Primary School, Tewkesbury

Climate



Change

If we don't stop,  
the Earth will change.  
No more polar bears,  
or coral reefs.

If we don't stop,  
floods will come.  
And trust me,  
the Earth is done.

If we don't stop,  
we will change  
the world in many  
different ways.  
We'll destroy species  
that cannot be remade.

If you had to admit it,  
the world is best without us.

by

Natasha  
Allen

and

Josh  
Mitchell