

# Impacts of Climate Change

## Gallery Activity

Created by University of Victoria, Teacher Summer Institute, 2026

Target audience: Environmental Science 11/12

Location: Forest Dome and Climate Change Gallery, 2nd floor Natural History Gallery

### Activity Description:

How does a healthy forest support life, and what happens when one part of the system changes? Today, you will explore the Natural History Gallery, including the Climate Change Gallery, as environmental investigators.

### Lesson Steps

1. Observe the Forest – Walk through the forest section of the museum. Take your time and look carefully. Find three living things in the exhibit. What is their role in the ecosystem?

| Living thing | Role in the ecosystem |
|--------------|-----------------------|
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|              |                       |
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2. Climate Change and its Effects on the Environment - Find the climate change exhibit within the Natural History Gallery. Discover what climate change is and how it impacts our Earth. How does it affect our local ecosystems?

What is driving climate change?

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Does climate change only involve global warming? Why or why not?

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3. Natural Connections - Did you see the cougar in the forest? What about the woodpeckers? How do deforestation and forest fires impact these two animals? Think about their homes, behaviours and food sources.

|            | Home | Behaviour | Food Sources |
|------------|------|-----------|--------------|
| Cougar     |      |           |              |
| Woodpecker |      |           |              |

4. Reflect on whether you or your community have ever been affected by deforestation, forest fires or other climate change-related issues. How did it disrupt your role in your community?