FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Like every living thing, humans need food and our amazing planet provides everything we eat. But the amount we grow and the way we produce it is causing big problems.



We demolish tropical rainforests to grow palm oil, a crop that is used in almost 50% of packaged products. This destroys the homes of orangutans, elephants, tigers and many more species. Next time you go shopping, look out for the sustainable palm oil logo.



Around 75% of the world's food comes from just 12 crops and 5 animals. It's good for us and for the environment to eat a wider variety of fruit and vegetables.





WHAT A WASTE!

We produce enough food to feed 9 billion people - more people than live on Earth! But in the UK, one third of all food bought is wasted. Try to reduce your food waste by turning your leftovers into new meals.



Almost 6 billion tonnes of fish and invertebrates (like shellfish) have been taken from the world's oceans since 1950. We're taking fish out of the sea faster than they are able to reproduce.



Bees are top pollinators and are responsible for one in three mouthfuls of our food. But their numbers are dropping because of chemicals used in farming and destruction of their habitats.



Producing 1kg of beef requires 70 times more land than 1kg of vegetables. Over 40% of grain grown worldwide is fed to farm animals. Changing land upsets the natural balance of the planet.

Carbon dioxide, or CO2, is a greenhouse gas that is making our planet dangerously warm. CO2 is released at every stage of food production. Here's how:



Clearing forests and disrupting soil for farmland



Making fertilisers, pesticides and farm machinery



Processing meat and crops in factories





Transporting food worldwide in trucks, boats and planes



Keeping food refrigerated, which uses more energy



All the energy used in food shops and supermarkets



Chilling and cooking food in our homes



A LOT OF CARBON DIOXIDE!

Visit the WWF website for more engaging classroom resources and activities. wwf.org.uk/schools

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