

CONVERSATION GUIDE



TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

Children are already hearing about climate change – at school, online and in everyday life. So, what's the best way to tackle this topic?

This guide will help you talk about climate change in ways that are honest, age-appropriate and hopeful.

BE CURIOUS!

- 1 Lead with curiosity. Find out what they've heard and what questions they have, and respond directly vs jumping into a detailed explanation:

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"What have you heard about climate change? Is there anything you are wondering about?"

MATCH CONTENT TO AGE

- 2 Be honest, but also age appropriate. Match the depth of your responses to what they're ready for – and follow their lead on when they want to know more.

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It's okay to say:

"I'm not sure. Let's find out together."

ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR FEELINGS

- 3 Worry, sadness and anger are all normal responses to a serious problem. Name any feelings and make space for them in the conversation. Let the children in your life know they're not alone.

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"I understand why you feel worried about that. What part feels hardest?"

BUILD THEIR AGENCY

- 4 Pair every difficult truth with details on where and how we're making progress. Remind them that many people around the world are working on solutions, and find ways to give them agency.

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"We cut pollution when we walk or ride our bikes. Could we get others doing it?"