Paper chain of consequences

This activity is designed to show how one impact can lead to another, and how larger problems can lead to smaller problems and that all these issues are intricately linked.

Before starting with the creation of the paper chain, get your students thinking about the interlinked impacts of climate change.

Depending on the skill level of your class and lesson timings you could complete this task in two ways:

1. Have students make one big paper chain, with a group each taking an impact "branch" to create one giant paper chain at the end.

2. Have groups of students create their own paper chain and let them compete for the longest and widest paper chain, with as many loops as possible!

Instructions

Begin with one loop of a paper chain. This link should be a different colour from the rest as it will act as your centre point. Making it from a piece of A3 is also useful as it will make the loop longer than others. Label this first loop 'climate change'.

From this central loop, link a loop with a larger impact written on it that occurs because of climate change, for example, 'temperature increase'. Then attach a new loop to this, labelled with an impact of temperature increase, such as 'increased rainfall'. Another loop will be attached to this, labelled with the next impact from increased rainfall, such as flooding.

Continue adding as many new loops with additional impacts as you can think of to make the paper chain of consequences as long and extensive as possible; if you only have small impacts at the end of the chain, that's OK!

Some impacts may have multiple impacts link off from them. If you discover an impact with multiple consequences, then link as many new loops as you can from it

Additional challenge

For added impact, designate a different colour for each type of impact (such as environmental, social, economic, etc) and then colour your loops accordingly.