

# Climate Change Debate

## Objective

This classroom debate helps students develop critical thinking, public speaking, and research skills while exploring complex issues related to climate change.

## Debate Format

1. Divide the class into two teams: Affirmative (Pro) and Negative (Con).
2. Choose a debate resolution (sample topics below).
3. Each team prepares arguments, evidence, and rebuttals.
4. Debate follows a structured format with timed speeches.
5. Optionally, allow class voting or judge scoring for the outcome.

## Sample Debate Topics

- Governments should ban fossil fuel vehicles by 2035.
- Climate change is the greatest threat facing humanity.
- Wealthy nations have a greater responsibility to reduce emissions.
- Meat consumption should be reduced to fight climate change.
- Climate protests are an effective tool for policy change.

## Roles and Preparation

- Speakers: Present arguments and respond to opponents.
- Researchers: Find statistics, case studies, and expert opinions.
- Timekeepers: Ensure fair speaking time.
- Judges (optional): Evaluate logic, evidence, and presentation.

## Assessment Rubric (Optional)

- Clarity of Argument: 10 pts
- Use of Evidence: 10 pts
- Rebuttal Strength: 10 pts
- Public Speaking Skills: 10 pts
- Team Collaboration: 10 pts

## Discussion Questions

### Classroom Discussion Questions

- Did any arguments change your perspective? Why or why not?

## Climate Change Debate

- Which arguments were backed by the strongest evidence?
- How do debates help us understand climate issues more deeply?

### Extension Activities

- Host a school-wide climate debate.
- Write a reflection essay summarizing what was learned.
- Record the debate and share it with the community.