What is energy?

We use energy everyday...

- To watch tv
- To light our schools and homes
- To boil the kettle
- To play playstation
- To make toast
- To wash our clothes
- To charge our mobile phones

This energy, in the form of electricity, is made by burning fossil fuels. Examples of fossil fuels are: coal, oil, gas and peat.

When we burn fossil fuels to produce electricity we release carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is the main greenhouse gas. Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are like a greenhouse – they let the heat of the sun in, but not out. So, this greenhouse effect is causing our climate to change and that's why we call it Climate Change.
Climate change is causing glaciers to melt in every part of the world. This is leading to a rise in sea level and therefore, an increased risk of flooding.

Another effect of climate change is droughts in hot countries, this could lead to a shortage of water and food.

How will climate change effect different parts of the world?

Climate change is already starting to effect Ireland and by 2050, scientists predict that Ireland will have more rain, drier summers, more storms and droughts. And lots of new creepy crawlies!

What about us?

Guzzler tells you what you can do to help

You can help by saving energy at home and at school.

> Switch off lights when you don't need them
> Turn off your tv, don't leave it on standby
> Close the curtains in the evening to keep the heat in
> Walk or cycle to school when it's safe to do so
> When the kettle is being boiled, only use the amount of water you need
> Dry your clothes on the clothes line instead of using the tumble drier
> Use energy efficient light bulbs
> Plug out your phone when it's charged
> Recycle your bottles and cans