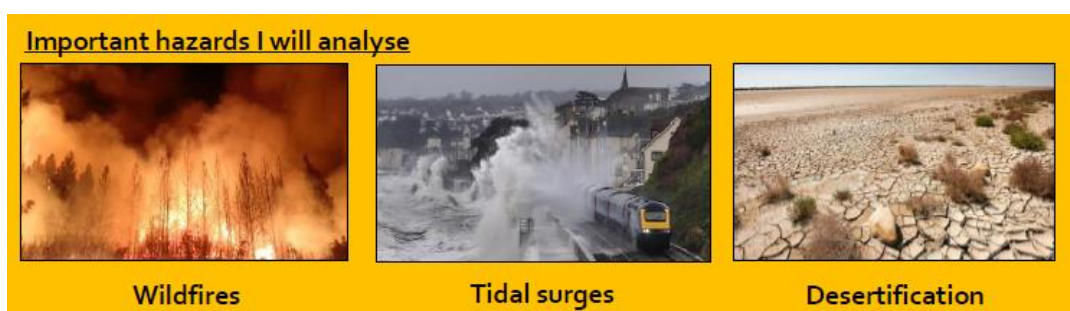


Frogwell School Year 6, Term 2  
Geography Knowledge Organiser  
How is climate change affecting the world?

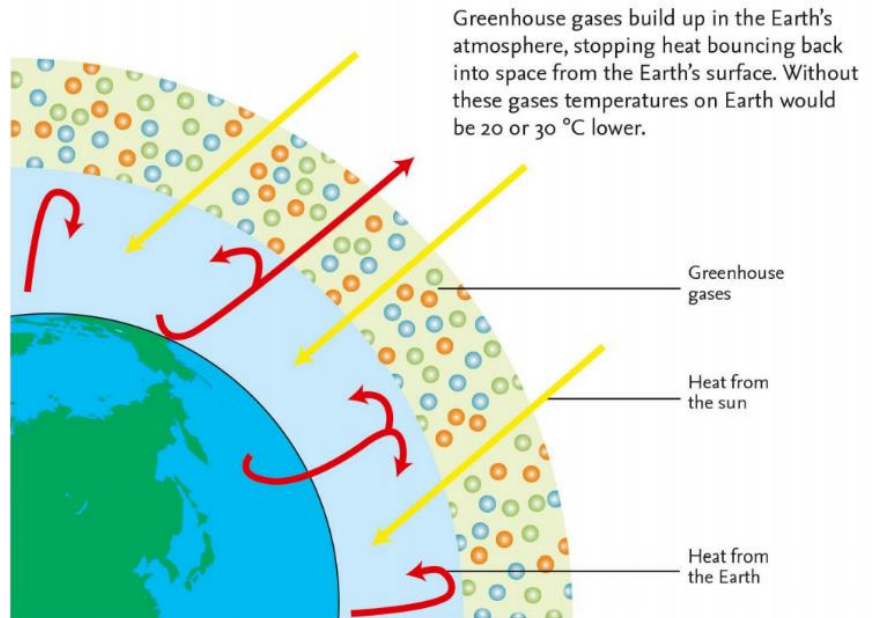
Vocabulary	
bushfire	Bushfires are fires that burn through areas of bushland. They are a type of wildfire – fires that burn through wild vegetation like woodland, scrubland, grassland or savannahs. These fires are unpredictable and difficult to control.
carbon dioxide	Carbon dioxide is a chemical compound that is usually in the form of a gas. Burning fossil fuels creates carbon dioxide gas, which is damaging to the environment and is making the Earth warmer than it should be.
carbon footprint	The amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere as a result of the activities of an individual, organisation or community.
climate	The average weather conditions of a place over a long period of time
desertification	The process by which fertile land becomes desert, typically as a result of drought, deforestation, or poor farming
drought	Droughts occur when there is abnormally low rainfall for an extended period of time.
fossil fuel	Natural, fuel formed from the remains of living organisms, eg oil, coal and natural gas.
greenhouse gases	The gases responsible for global warming - carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons).
glacier	Huge masses of ice that “flow” like very slow rivers. They form over hundreds of years where fallen snow compresses and turns into ice.
ice sheet	a thick layer of ice covering a large area of land or sea
settlement	A place of any size where people live
sustainability	improving the quality of life of people without having a negative impact on the environment
tidal surge	An unusual, often destructive rise in sea level above normal high-tide level in a coastal area

The average temperature of the earth is rising, a process called **global warming**. Global warming is causing changes to normal weather conditions in places all over the world. As a result it is having serious effects on people’s lives. Global warming is causing:

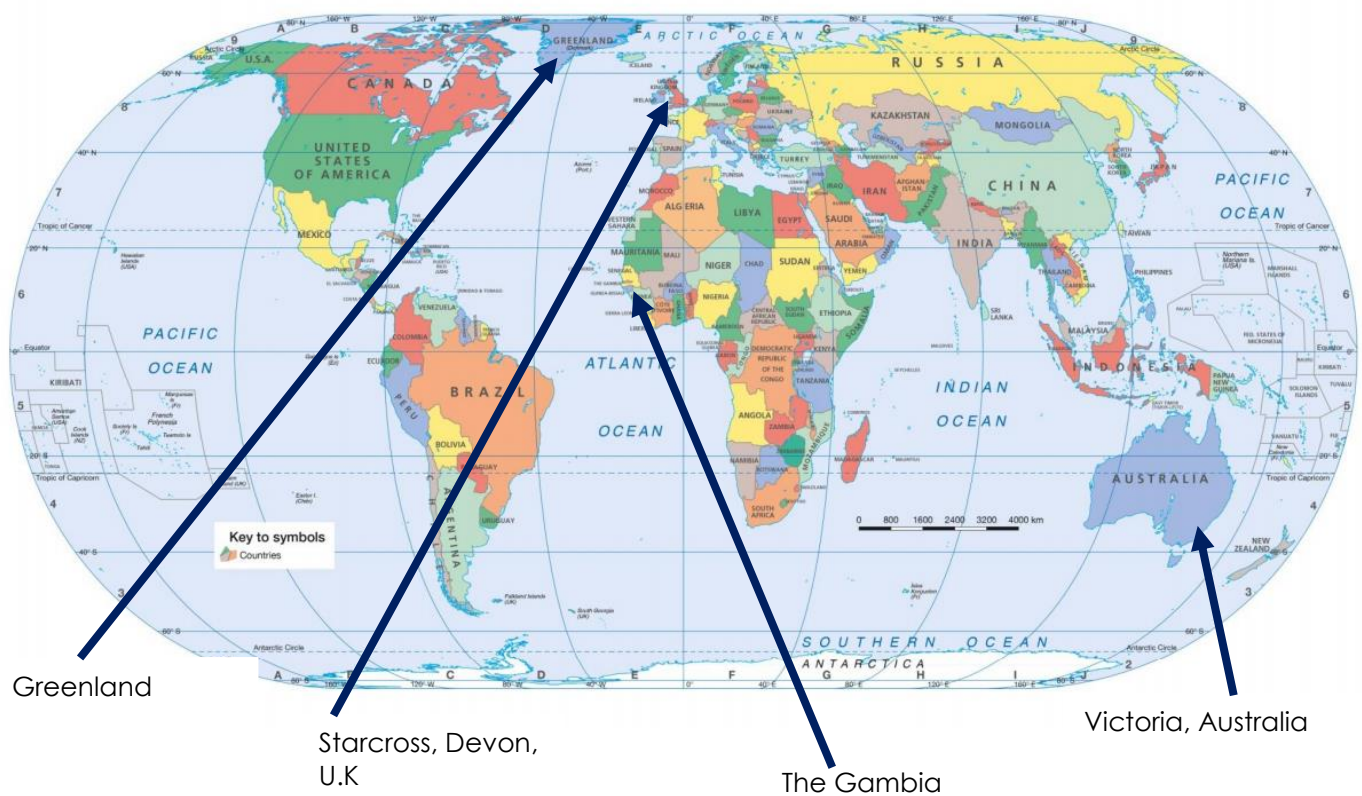
- Ice sheets, sea ice and glaciers around the North Pole and South Pole and in high mountain ranges to thaw.
- More extreme weather events around the world such as long heat waves and droughts in some places and short intense storms with very heavy rainfall and flooding elsewhere.
- Sea levels to rise.



**Carbon dioxide** is referred to as a **greenhouse gas** because, along with other gases such as methane, it stops heat bouncing back into space from the Earth's surface. Naturally occurring greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are vital for the Earth because, without some of these gases, temperatures on the planet would be 20–30 °C lower than they are today!



We are going to look at the effect of climate change on these places around the world.



**COP 26:**

In November 2021, more than 200 world leaders met for an event, known as COP26, to discuss climate change. 'COP' stands for 'conference of parties' – a meeting that involves lots of different people working towards the same goal.

COP26 is the 26th meeting of members of the 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change' (UNFCCC). COP26 is an important meeting all about taking action against climate change. It began in 1994, when many world leaders became part of the UNFCCC and agreed that their countries would help to combat global warming. Since then, a COP has been held every year so that decision-makers can get together and discuss what to do next.