



Go Beyond: Science Journal

Reconciling Facts with Behavior

In your science journal record your thoughts and research on one of the following topics.

- If climate scientists know that human activity ---- primarily burning of fossil fuels ---- is changing the Earth's climate, why is it so difficult to utilize this knowledge in changing human behavior?
- How is it that values become important in a scientific issue such as climate model projections?
- If the average temperature of the Earth were 5 °C warmer than it is today, how would that matter?

Process:

1. Select one or more of the questions above.
2. Write down or sketch what you think answers the question based on your own understanding without looking anything up.
3. Ask a family member, friend, or teacher the same question(s) and write down or sketch their answers.
4. What are the common ideas in the answers you've collected? Write or sketch the common themes/ideas.
5. Devise your own strategy for digging deeper (ask a scientist, check out university or government agency websites like NASA and NOAA, go to the library, design and conduct an experiment, etc.) until you're satisfied the answer makes sense to you.
6. Summarize what is known and unknown about the subject of the question(s). Also note what evidence there is in supporting what is known and how the evidence was obtained.
7. Rate the answer you've come up with on a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being weak with lots of uncertainty, 10 being perfect.