



Go Beyond: Imagining Extremes

What is a range shift and why do they happen?

Imagining Extremes: In this clip, Dr. Parmesan explains that climate-related extreme events or years with conditions considerably above or below average have led to the extinction of some butterfly populations. Use your science journal to record your thoughts, sketches, and ideas about one type of extreme event.

- Scientific studies¹ project that if current trends of carbon emissions and global warming continue, the United States will see an increase in the number of days per year with a temperature of over 100 degrees F.
 - Look up the average number of days per year above 100 F in the area where you live. Days above 100 deg F are considered an extreme event.
 - If the number of days above 100 deg F increased by 20 or more days per year, how would that impact social and economic conditions where you live?
 - Is there food grown in your area?
 - What are your water resources like?
 - What would this mean in terms of energy use?
 - What would this mean in terms of popular activities?
 - At what point would climate changes cause you to be no longer be willing to live in an area?

¹ www.climatecommunication.org/