

What is 1.5 degrees of global warming?

You hear about it in the news, and sometimes around the dinner table. It can cause arguments, fear, and seemingly-bizarre actions. So what is going on with climate change? Is it the same as 'global warming'? How do climate scientists look at climate change? How can learning about climate change help us live better, happier, and healthier lives? You'll explore these questions through a short reading and following class period.

First, read this short article from NASA: <https://climate.nasa.gov/resources/global-warming-vs-climate-change/> (about 5 minute read time). Then use information in the article to answer the following questions.

- 1) What are the differences between 'global warming' and 'climate change'? Try to find two differences described in the article.
- 2) How is global warming measured? Hint: look for a quantity that can be described by a number with units.
- 3) How much global warming has occurred so far, according to the changes in global average temperature?
- 4) What is the current rate of global warming? Hint: look for a number with units of degrees Celsius per decade.
- 5) What is the main human activity that is increasing greenhouse gas levels?
- 6) The article lists several key indicators of climate change. Which of these can you recall hearing about before, possibly in the news, in school, or from friends or family?
- 7) What questions do *you* have about climate change? Try to list more than one.