

Teaching Climate Change: Evidence and effects

Gina P. Correia | Giulia Realdon | Guillaume Coupechoux |
Pete Loader | Xavier Juan

EGU – Geoscience Education Field Officers

Geoscience Information for Teachers | Vienna 15th April 2024



Meetings | Publications | Outreach | www.egu.eu

EGU and the birth of GEFO Programme

- Among the different STEM subjects, **geosciences are probably the most neglected**, both in school curricula and in the teaching practices of many countries.
- 2019 - **EGU** launched a programme with the objective to promote geoscience education in Europe and beyond, creating a first group of teacher trainers, the **Geoscience Education Field Officers (GEFO)** in 6 countries (France, India, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, and Spain) with the support of the International Union of Geological Sciences (**IUGS**) and the International Geoscience Education Organisation (**IGEO**).



1st GEFO's trainee (Vienna, 2019)



- 2022 - Due to its success, a second call was open and **13 new GEFO** were appointed to represent Albania, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, India, Malaysia, Romania, Togo, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

New GEFO's trainee (Barcelona, 2022)

Geoscience Education Field Officers in the world EGU + IUGS-COGE

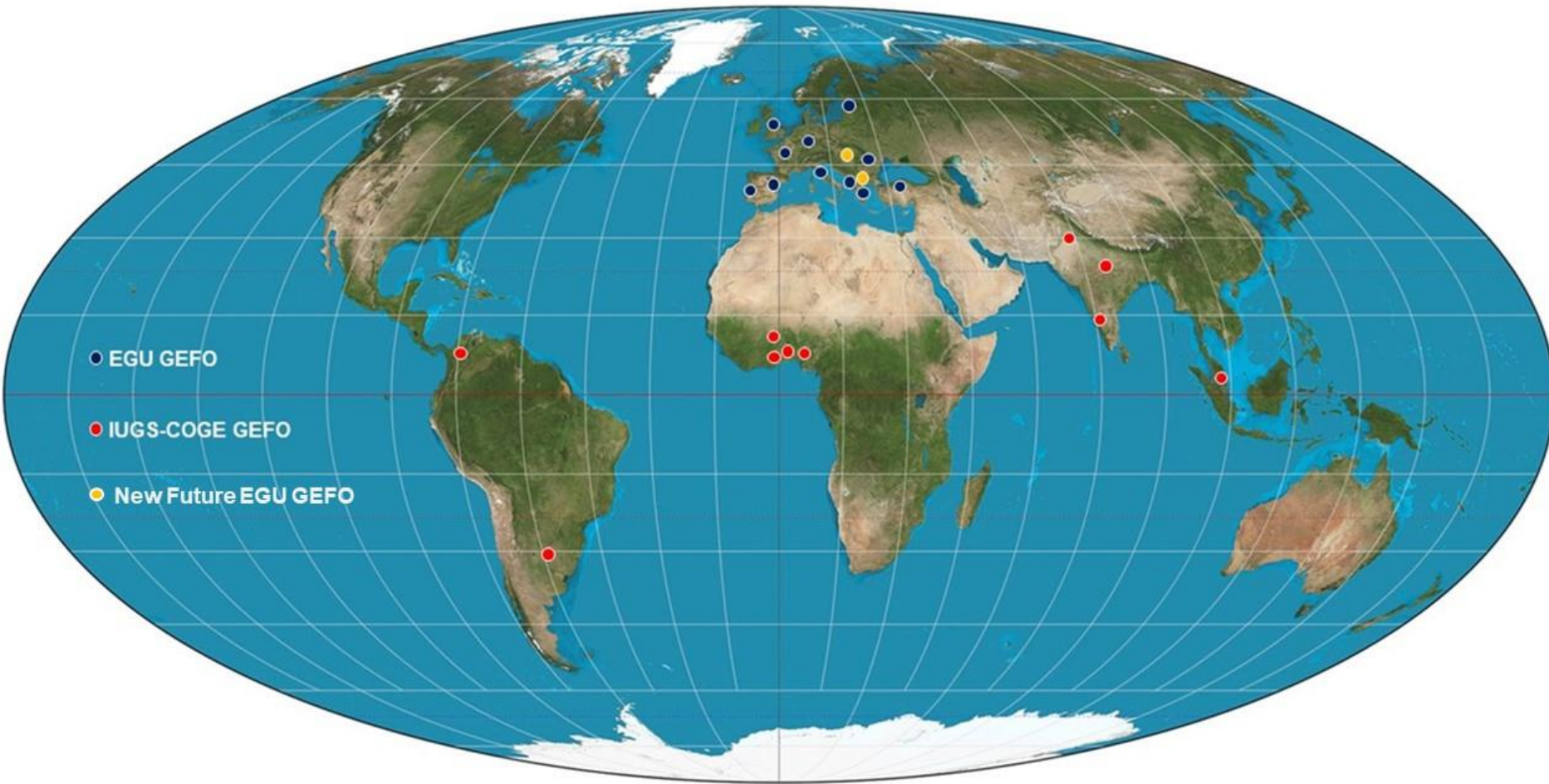


Image: Helder Pereira

EGU Geoscience Education Field Officers

European Geosciences Union

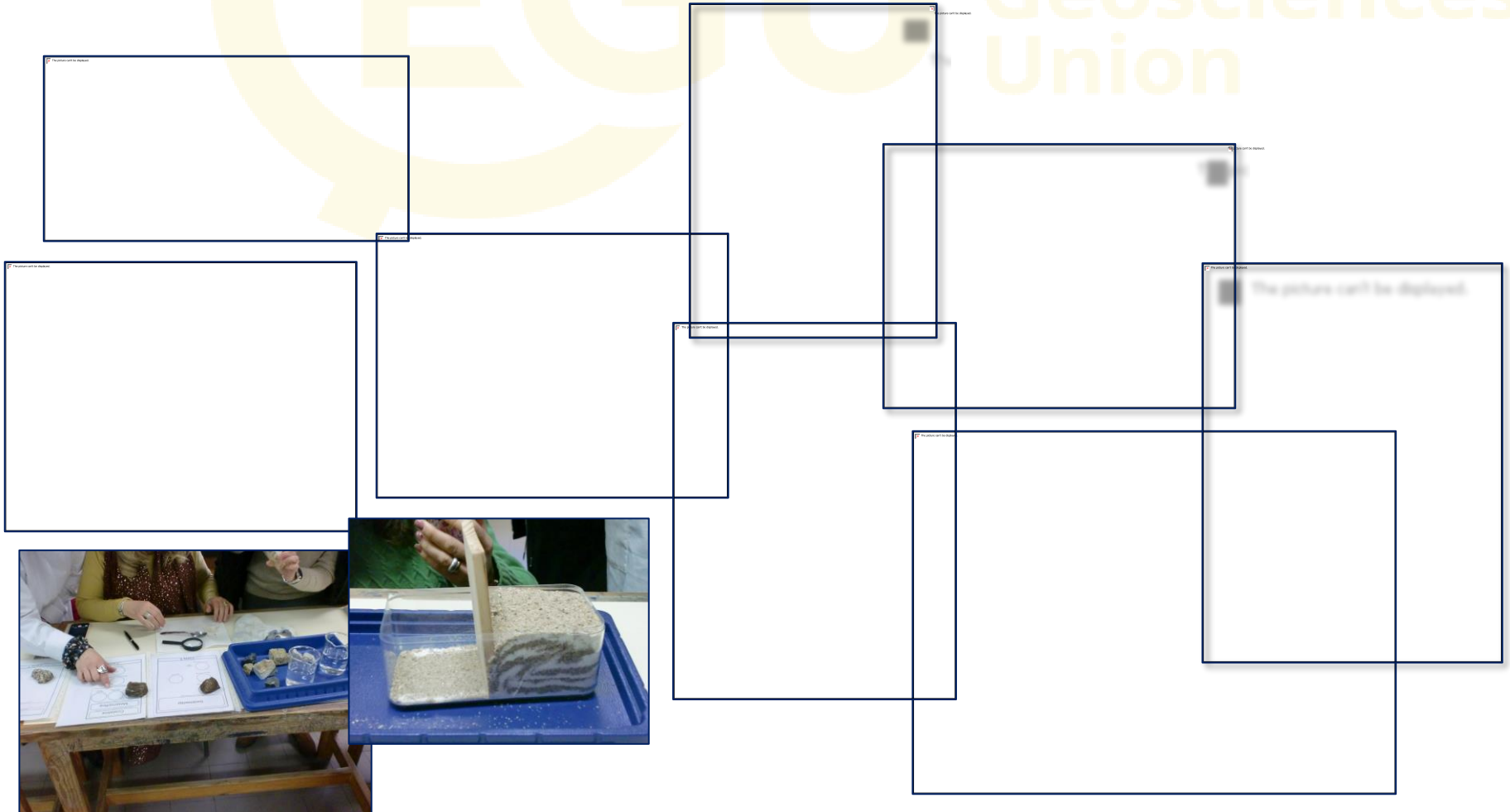


Goal:

providing professional development for school teachers and future teachers, from primary to secondary schools, in teaching the elements of geoscience appropriate for their teaching curriculum, through interactive workshops.

EGU Geoscience Education Field Officers

- GEFO offers face to face and online workshops at national and international level.



Workshops:

- Interactive
- Hands-on
- Activities: practical, simple, requiring max. one teaching time
- Materials: inexpensive, easy to obtain/build and/or readily available in normal school classrooms and science labs.

Topics:

Plate tectonics | Rock cycle | Seismology | Time Scale and history of Earth | Volcanology | Hydrology and oceanography | Earth in space | Natural hazards | Geopark training courses



Images: examples of workshop materials, Chris King, ESEU

EGU Geoscience Education Field Officers

- GEFO promote geosciences teaching by presenting GEFO programme in National and international Conferences and magazines.

Since 2019 - 2023

- 156 WS;
- ≈ 3000 participants;
- 8 papers + 18 abstracts;
- 23 conferences/webinars.

Nuova opportunità per la formazione in servizio dei docenti :
Il programma EGU Geoscience Education Field Officers

Giulia Reardon¹, Teresita Gravina²
¹Università di Camerino-Sezione di Geologia, Gruppo di Scienze della Terra
²Università G. Marconi, Roma

Earth Science Education, Keele University
 Le Geoscienze a Scuola
 Università di Parma
 19 settembre 2019

MEETING | PUBLICATIONS | OUTREACH | WORKSHOPS

Le Geoscienze a Scuola.
 2019, Parma, Italy

EGU CoE Webinar, 2020

EGU Geoscience Education Field Officer: um programa internacional para a promoção do ensino das geociências

Gina P. Correia¹ & Helder Pereira²

¹ Centro de Investigação da Terra e do Espaço da Universidade de Coimbra (CITEUC), EGU Education Committee, gina_maria@uaiz.ucp.pt
² Escola Secundária de Loulé, Centro de Investigação da Terra e do Espaço da Universidade de Coimbra (CITEUC), EGU Education Committee

My experience as a Geoscience Education Field Officer

Gina P. Correia - Field Officer (Portugal)

Webinar | 17th August

İlk Ve Ortaokul Öğretmenlerinin Yerbilimleri Eğitimi

Candan Kafalı
 Fen Bilimleri Öğretmeni
 EGU Türkiye Saha Görevlisi

74th Geological Congress of Turkey.
 2022, Ankara, Turkey

Geology National Congress. 2023, Coimbra, Portugal

Science in School
 The European journal for science teachers

ISSUE 54 | 01/09/2021

Watery world – experiments for the classroom

Need inspiration for teaching about water for classroom activities that can be performed in the classroom?

The importance of water

Water is one of the defining features of the Earth. Most life on the planet is dependent on water. In fact, most of the Earth's surface is covered in water. For liquid fresh water on the planet, the ratio of surface water to land is around 1:25.

Continental liquid water, despite being a tiny part of the water cycle, is unevenly distributed, is the part that affects human life and drives important processes on the planet. Water processes on land are connected to the global water cycle, which moves water and heat through the atmosphere, the biosphere, and the continents.

www.scienceinschool.org/2021/watery-world/

VIII Jornada de História da Ciência e Ensino e III Encontro Nacional de História da Ciência no Ensino

Geoscience Education (GEFO) workshop on the Field Officer (FO) role, with a focus on the importance of water in geoscience education.

Uma das propostas pedagógicas da Comissão de EGU é a promoção de ações educativas em escolas, significativamente alargando a sua atuação ao nível das escolas primárias e secundárias. Este trabalho apresenta a experiência de uma professora de Geologia do Ensino Secundário de Loulé, que atuou como FO, durante o III Encontro Nacional de História da Ciência no Ensino, em Faro, em 2021.

Atividades Literárias

Uma das propostas pedagógicas da Comissão de EGU é a promoção de ações educativas em escolas, significativamente alargando a sua atuação ao nível das escolas primárias e secundárias. Este trabalho apresenta a experiência de uma professora de Geologia do Ensino Secundário de Loulé, que atuou como FO, durante o III Encontro Nacional de História da Ciência no Ensino, em Faro, em 2021.

O Geoscience Education Field Officer

Gina P. Correia¹, Helder Pereira², Chris King³

¹ CITEUC/Universidade de Coimbra
² Escola Secundária de Loulé
³ Keele University

A importância do ensino de geociências para a formação dos cidadãos é cada vez mais evidente. No entanto, a formação dos professores de geociências é um desafio. Este trabalho apresenta a experiência de uma professora de Geologia do Ensino Secundário de Loulé, que atuou como FO, durante o III Encontro Nacional de História da Ciência no Ensino, em Faro, em 2021.

Geoscience Education Field Officer International programme...

...The first year of activity (May 2019-April 2020)

Abstract
 The Geoscience Education Field Officer (FO) programme was launched in 2019 by the European Geosciences Union (EGU) Committee on Education (CoE). The initiative began in six countries: Italy, India, Mexico, Portugal, Spain and the UK. The programme aims to support geoscience education across Europe and beyond, and to promote the role of geoscience education in society.

Keywords: Earth Science, EGU, Geoscience Education, International programme, teaching geosciences

Introduction
 Whilst geoscience topics are included in most school national curricula or syllabi (e.g. King, 2019), the need for geoscience education has been recognised for many years. In fact, according to the International Geoscience Education (IGE) report (2016, p. 9) because of the low status of Earth Science in the school curriculum, it is a major and outstanding challenge for Earth Science to the education of many teachers, and a quality teaching materials national education (e.g. King, 2019).

EGU (European Geosciences Union) Education Field Officer programme: teachers' appreciation, perceptions and needs

Abstract
 The Geoscience Education Field Officer (FO) programme was launched in 2019 by the European Geosciences Union (EGU) Committee on Education (CoE). The initiative began in six countries: Italy, India, Mexico, Portugal, Spain and the UK. The programme aims to support geoscience education across Europe and beyond, and to promote the role of geoscience education in society.

Keywords: Earth Science, EGU, Geoscience Education, International programme, teaching geosciences

EGU GEOSCIENCE EDUCATION FIELD OFFICERS

Gina Pereira Correia¹ & Chris King²

¹ EGU Geoscience Education Field Officer (GEFO) - Centre for Earth and Space Research of the University of Coimbra (CITEUC), Coimbra, Portugal
² EGU Geoscience Education Field Officer (GEFO) - Keele University, Keele, UK

Abstract
 As a strategy to support geoscience education across Europe and beyond, the European Geosciences Union (EGU) Committee on Education, has developed a new project involving Geoscience Education Field Officers (FOs). In the first pilot year, four FOs have been appointed in Portugal, France, Italy and Spain. They will support EGU in their countries with their main priority of providing professional development to school teachers and to primary to secondary schools, in teaching the elements of geoscience appropriate for their teaching curriculum through informal education. This project is also supported by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and the International Geoscience Education Organisation (IGEO), although the FOs from India and Mexico to be established in the near future.

EGU Geosciences Education Field Officers: the assessment of the programme

Gina P. Correia^{1,2}, Sylke Hilwatsch³, Anna Angliano Rocca^{4,5}, Helder Pereira^{1,2,6}, & Jean-Luc Berenguez^{2,6}

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⁶ EGU Education & Outreach, University of Coimbra, France

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GeoBerlin 2023, Berlin, Germany

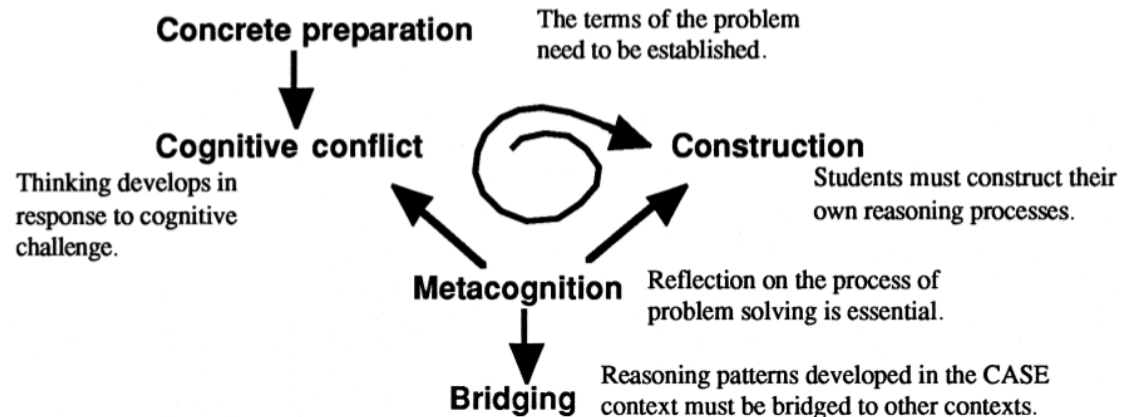
Workshop theoretical base: the CASE model

CASE - Cognitive Acceleration through Science Education Programme

- Aimed at the development of cognitive skills **through** science teaching
- Based on the work of educational psychologists Piaget and Vygotsky
- Successfully tested in the '90 in UK and used worldwide

The five pillars of CASE methodology

- 1. Concrete preparation:** preparing the ground, ensuring familiarity with the apparatus, the terminology, and the problem being addressed.
- 2. Construction:** collecting data and detecting patterns in the data.
- 3. Cognitive conflict:** when new data does not fit the expected pattern, challenging students' previous knowledge.
- 4. Metacognition:** reflecting on one's own thinking, verbally or on paper.
- 5. Bridging:** applying this new understanding to new contexts and to the real world.



Geoscience Education Field Officers: the activities repository

Earth Learning Idea : 15 years on and still going strong!

The ELI team - Chris King, Peter Kennett, Elizabeth Devon, Pete Loader.

The **EARTHLEARNINGIDEA** ("ELI") concept was born in 2007 following a failed bid by the International Geoscience Education Organisation (IGEO) to present Earth science teaching workshops, to teachers in developing countries during the 2008 International Year of Planet Earth. Masterminded by the late Professor Chris King and two colleagues on a volunteer basis, the initial plan was to publish a new activity every week for the year on a specially designated website. Each activity presented an Earth science topic using an interactive, inquiry-based approach to educate and motivate pupils, whilst developing their thinking and investigative skills.

Secondary age (11-18 yrs) activities



There are now over 400 activities, many with accompanying teaching videos (based on the CASE model), and extension ideas. All are FREE to download with a new topic published every two weeks. Most are aimed at teachers and teacher trainers in developing countries and so use simple apparatus that might be available in classrooms with few resources, whilst focusing on fairly simple ideas. They are designed to cover the geoscience curricula of Primary to Upper Secondary education.

Great Soil Race



Primary/Junior age (5-11 yrs) activities



Innovative, Earth-related teaching ideas website



ESTABLISHED 2007

www.earthlearningidea.com

Earth Learning Idea

Innovative, Earth-related teaching ideas

European Geosciences Union

ELI PAGES CHILDREN'S FUN RESOURCES TRANSLATIONS ELI IN THE WORLD

Keyword Search

Topics Alphabetical index

Predicting volcanic eruptions

Now there is a teaching video to accompany the activity so published many years ago. When will it start? - predicting eruptions, here a simple classroom can demonstrate the beginning of a volcano before eruption.

The activity could form part of a lesson about volcanic eruptions and their effects. It could be used as part of the preparation for the next response to eruptions in a volcanic area.

Click here to find many other volcanic teaching ideas.

The ELI Blog

Earth Learning Idea

News, views and updates on the website

Free open-source textbooks

Exploring Geoscience Across the Globe

Activities and questions

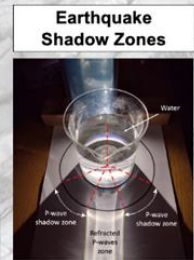
Chris King

Exploring Geoscience Across the Globe

Chris King

SCAN ME

Future Earthlearningidea activities



Critical minerals series

The Earthlearningidea in Feb 2023 :

- ELIs in English are currently being published at one per fortnight; over 400 English activities have so far been published
- ELI PDF, videos and PowerPoint files have been downloaded more than 6.2 million times
- ELI has been accessed in most countries and more than 12,500 cities globally
- ELIs have been translated into 10 other languages: Spanish, Catalan, Norwegian, Italian, German, Portuguese, Polish, Japanese, South Korean
- ELIs have been used as the basis of teacher training education workshops in many countries

Mining and the Green Revolution



Contact details

Web: www.earthlearningidea.com
Follow us on Twitter: @ELI_Earth
E-mail: pete@Earthlearningidea.com

Free open-source textbooks

Exploring Geoscience Across the Globe

Activities and questions

Chris King

Exploring Geoscience Across the Globe

Chris King

SCAN ME

Natural Hazard ELIs

Sink Holes

Spaghetti Quakes

Quake Shake

Slinky Seismic waves

Tsunamis Alert!

Lava Simulation

New in 2023

Our website now includes videos of many of our activities in action

Geoscience Education Field Officers: the activities repository



ESTA
Earth Science
Teachers' Association
earth-science-teachers.eu

www.earthlearningidea.com

Earth Learning Idea

Innovative, Earth-related teaching ideas



EGU European
Geosciences
Union

ELI passes
[Children's Fun](#)

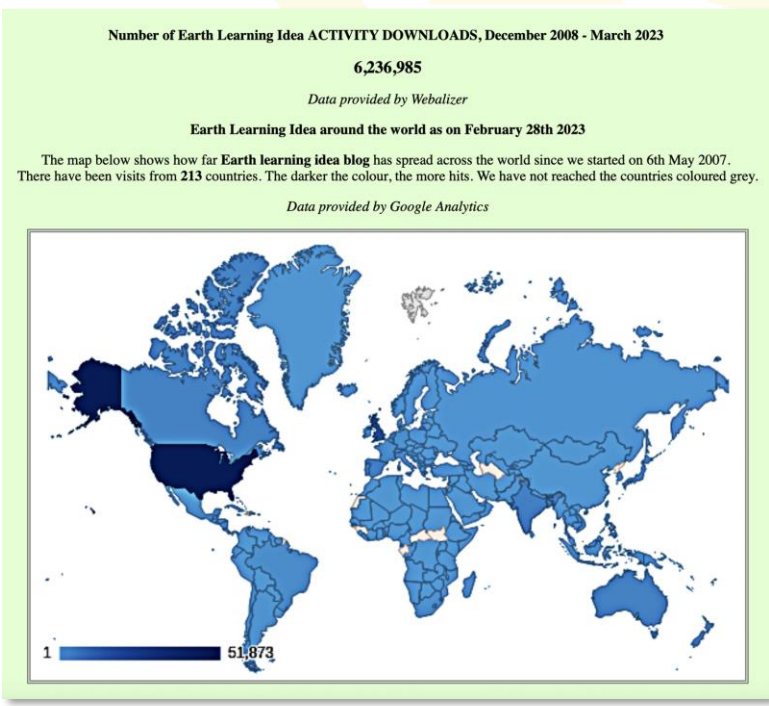
Teaching strategies
[Virtual Rock Kit](#)

Teaching videos
[Teaching workshops](#)

ELI translations
[ELI in the world](#)

- [Earth as a System \(27 activities\)](#)
- [Earth Energy/Processes \(111 activities\)](#)
- [Earth in Space \(13 activities\)](#)
- [Earth Materials \(53 activities\)](#)
- [Evolution of Life \(27 activities\)](#)
- [Geological Time \(14 activities\)](#)
- [Investigating the Earth \(83 activities\)](#)
- [Natural Hazards \(21 activities\)](#)
- [Resources and Environment \(41 activities\)](#)

<http://www.earthlearningidea.com>



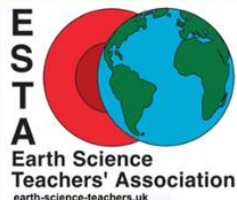
- ELI Translations**
-  [Castellano](#)
[Proyecto Internacional de Investigación](#)
 -  [Català](#)
[Projecte Internacional de Recerca](#)
 -  [Norok](#)
 -  [Italiano](#)
 -  [Deutsch](#)
 -  [Português](#)
(países de língua portuguesa)
 -  [Polski](#)
 -  [Slovensky](#)
 -  [Japanese](#)
 -  [South Korean](#)
 -  [Tamil](#)

Teaching Resources

- Topics & Teaching strategies
- Teaching videos & workshops ages 5-11
- Teaching videos & workshops ages 11-18
- Geography teaching videos & workshops ages 11-14
- Mining and the Green Revolution, ages 14-18
- ELI Virtual Rock Kit
- Geoscience textbooks

- > 400 available activities
- Explanatory videos
- Translated into different languages
- 2008 to 2024 ~~over~~ over 6,6 million downloads

Geoscience Education Field Officers: the activities repository



www.earthlearningidea.com

Earth Learning Idea

Innovative, Earth-related teaching ideas



Earthlearningidea - <http://www.earthlearningidea.com/>

Shaken but not stirred? How earthquakes affect buildings

Make up a model as shown in either of the two photographs, depending on what materials you have to hand.



Photo 1: Model 'buildings' of different heights, using helium-filled balloons. (Photo: Peter Kennett)



Photo 2: Blutak™ 'buildings', secured to a wooden base by more Blutak™. The middle 'building' is swaying as the base is moved backwards and forwards on the table top. (Photo: Peter Kennett)

Show the model to the pupils and ask them to say which of the three structures will sway the most when the base is shaken forwards and backwards several times on the bench. Most pupils will say that the tallest structure will sway the most, but this is not always the case. The amount of movement at the top of each column depends upon the frequency with which the base is moved – a high frequency will cause the shortest structure to sway the most, while a lower frequency causes the tallest structure to sway the most. With practice you can find the right

frequency to get any of the buildings to sway the most – so that the pupils' predictions are wrong each time! Ask the pupils to suggest what relevance this demonstration has in the real world. Most will suggest that the model is showing what happens to buildings when they are affected by an earthquake. No doubt, pupils will relate their observations to images seen on T.V., filmed during a recent earthquake.



Damaged buildings in the Port-au-Prince neighbourhood of Haiti, after the 2010 Haiti earthquake. The tall block remains standing amid the ruins of lower, less well-constructed buildings. Photo by Marcello Casal Jr/AB, licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Brazil license.

Show pupils the animated cartoon on the website below, to help them to relate the model aid to a high rise building. Ask them what may not be correct about the cartoon (*Tall buildings are not necessarily the ones to collapse in an earthquake, if they have been properly constructed*). http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/4/Blutk_Tssss.pdf

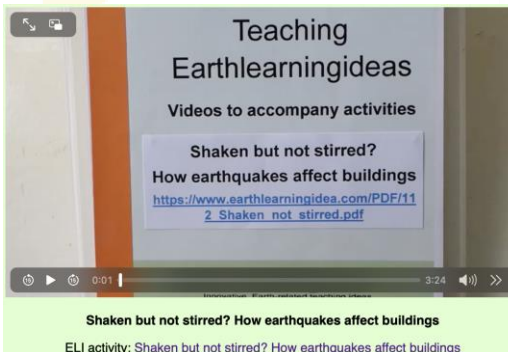
of the 'ground' and the movement of model 'buildings' of various heights.
Age range of pupils: 14 – 18 years
Time needed to complete activity: 10 minutes

The back up

Title: Shaken but not stirred?

Subtitle: How earthquakes affect buildings

Topic: A teacher-led demonstration of the relationship between the frequency of the shaking



Shaken but not stirred? How earthquakes affect buildings
ELI activity: Shaken but not stirred? How earthquakes affect buildings

Video demonstrations



Shaken but not stirred? How earthquakes affect buildings

ELI activity: Shaken but not stirred? How earthquakes affect buildings

Earthlearningidea - <http://www.earthlearningidea.com/>

Pupil learning outcomes: Pupils can:

- observe the movement of a structure when its base is shaken;
- establish a visual relationship between the height of a structure and the frequency with which it is shaken;
- relate their observations to the damage caused by an earthquake in a built-up area.

Context: The activity can be used to help

students to explore the effects of earthquakes in densely populated areas, and to dispel misconceptions about the relative safety of high rise buildings in seismically active regions.

Following up the activity:

Pupils could:

- 'rock' for a relationship between the height of structures and the frequency of vibration by timing the movement to and fro of the base and using a range of heights for their 'buildings'; *In the model shown in Photo 2, the 21cm tall structure swayed at 1.7 shakes (cycles) per second; the 17cm structure at 3.1 cycles per second and the 13 cm structure at 4.0 cycles per second.*
- investigate other materials in place of the ones shown in the photographs, using 'staks' of different rigidity, and with different masses on top of their structures;
- carry out a web search for images of buildings which have survived/ been destroyed by the same earthquake and suggest reasons for their findings;
- carry out a web search for various engineering solutions in the design of earthquake-resistant buildings.

Underlying principles:

- All buildings have a natural frequency of vibration. They shake in response to the ground being shaken by the passage of seismic waves, generated by an earthquake.
- When the natural frequency of vibration is the same as the frequency of the seismic waves, the building is said to *resonate*, and it is at this point that the building sways the most and so is most liable to be damaged.
- Tall buildings are not necessarily the ones at most risk from earthquake damage.
- Engineering solutions depend on calculating the natural frequency of the building and on knowing the normal range of frequencies of the relevant types of seismic waves, before designing strengthening measures etc.
- Existing buildings can sometimes be made more earthquake resistant by adding extra

struts, or flexible joints. This is termed **retrofitting**.

Thinking skill development:

Students usually experience a cognitive conflict at the start of the activity, when the structure which they had expected to move the most does not always do so. Explaining why they were wrong involves metacognition. Linking the model to real earthquakes is a relatively simple bridging skill.

Resource list:

- a model or more 'high rise buildings', made up before the lesson. Photograph 1 shows three helium-filled balloons on 'party sticks' cut to different lengths, fixed to holes drilled in a block of wood. Photograph 2 shows three drinking straws with blobs of Blutak™ of similar mass, fixed to a wooden base with more Blutak™.

Useful links: See below. Also see the Earthlearningidea activities: 'Quake shake – will my home collapse?', 'Surviving an earthquake', and 'Earthquake through the window – what would you see, what would you feel?'

Source: Based on an idea by Peter Loader, in 'Teaching Earth Sciences', Vol. 36 No. 1 2011. A more sophisticated method, using an electrically operated shaker table, is given in 'Innovations in Practical Work: Seismology', 2007, Gatsby Science Enhancement Programme, ISBN: 978-1-901351-72-9.



Model 'buildings' using an electrically operated shaker table, from the SEP kit. (Photo: Peter Kennett)

Details of publications and equipment, including a working seismograph, capable of recording real earthquakes, are given on the website: <http://www.sep.org.uk>

Geoscience Education Field Officers: the activities repository in social media

<https://www.facebook.com/earthlearningidea>

https://twitter.com/ELI_Earth

- a new Blog update every Monday
- a new activity posted every 2 weeks
- New videos uploaded all the time.

<http://earthlearningidea.blogspot.com/>

Teaching Climate Change: Evidence and effects



In this workshop we are presenting a few **examples of practical labs**:

- addressing some topics **included in the Geosciences curriculum** for different age groups;
- useful for **understanding the functioning** of our planet and how it is **affected by climate changes**;
- requiring students to **apply their new learning** to the other situations and **to real phenomena happening on the Earth**;
- fostering **students' awareness and positive attitudes** towards the protection and sustainable management of our planet.



Image: NOAA, permitted use

Teaching Climate Change: Evidence and effects

The workshop we are presenting today address:

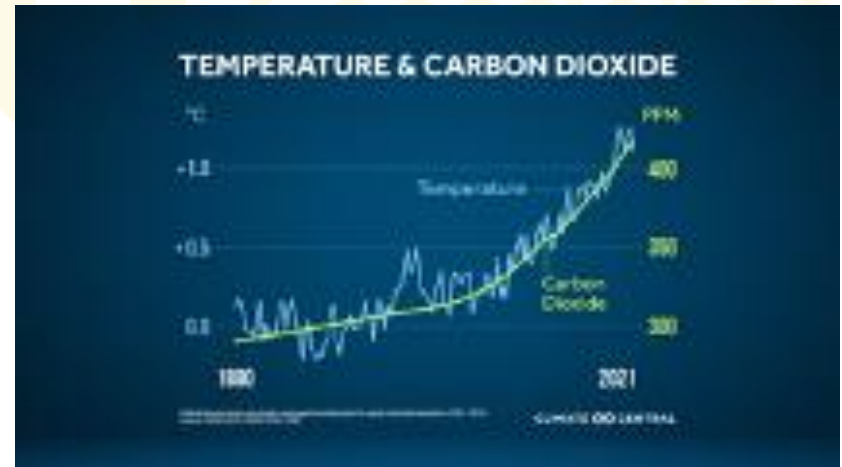
- **‘Greenhouse effect in a bottle’** (How to simulate the effect of increased CO₂ level on Earth temperature)
- **‘Earth’s oxygen thermometers’** (Simulating how ocean sediment and continental ice cores record past changes in Earth’s temperature)
- **‘Sea level in a plastic cup’** (Eight ways to change the water level in a plastic cup - and global sea level)
- **‘Ocean acidification – The other CO₂ problem’**. (See how acidified water affects calcareous marine organisms)
- **How do I choose the best insulation ?** (Investigating enhanced insulation for buildings)

Greenhouse effect in a bottle

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/441_Greenhouse_bottle.pdf

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- The greenhouse effect occurs because solar radiation enters the atmosphere and is partly reflected by Earth's surface, atmosphere and clouds, but lower energy radiation (heat), reflected from the surface, is “trapped” by certain atmospheric gases and cannot return to space.
- These gases, called **greenhouse gases**, are water vapour, carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and others minor components.
- Apart water vapour, the most abundant and persistent greenhouse gas is CO₂, produced mainly by the burning of fossil fuels, industrial processes, farming, and land use.
- Its abundance has dramatically risen since the industrial revolution, around 1750



(image: Climate Central, permitted use)

- A consequence of the increase in greenhouse gases is excess heat in the atmosphere, which has caused an increase in global average temperature, known as **global warming**, leading to rapid climate change, dangerous to the environment and to most living organisms, which have evolved under more stable climate conditions.

Greenhouse effect in a bottle

THE ACTIVITY

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/441_Greenhouse_bottle.pdf

MATERIALS: two transparent plastic bottles with a small hole in the cap (enough to fit a thermometer suspended in the bottle), two thermometers, tap water, fizzy tablets, a hot bulb lamp or a sunny day, a stopwatch, pen and paper

PROCEDURE

- Drill a small hole in the cap of two plastic beverage bottles and insert a thermometer that fits in it.
- Label the bottles as EXP (experimental) and CTRL (control).
- Pour the same amount of water into the bottles and check that the thermometers don't touch the liquid
- Close the bottles so that the caps are NOT airtight,
- Check that the initial temperature is the same in the two bottles
- Open the EXP bottle, add two fizzy tablets and close it quickly.
- Place an incandescent lamp so that it projects light and heat onto the two bottles or, on warm days, expose the two bottles to direct sunlight.
- Record the temperature inside the two bottles every 3 minutes for 15 minutes and enter the data into a time/temperature graph



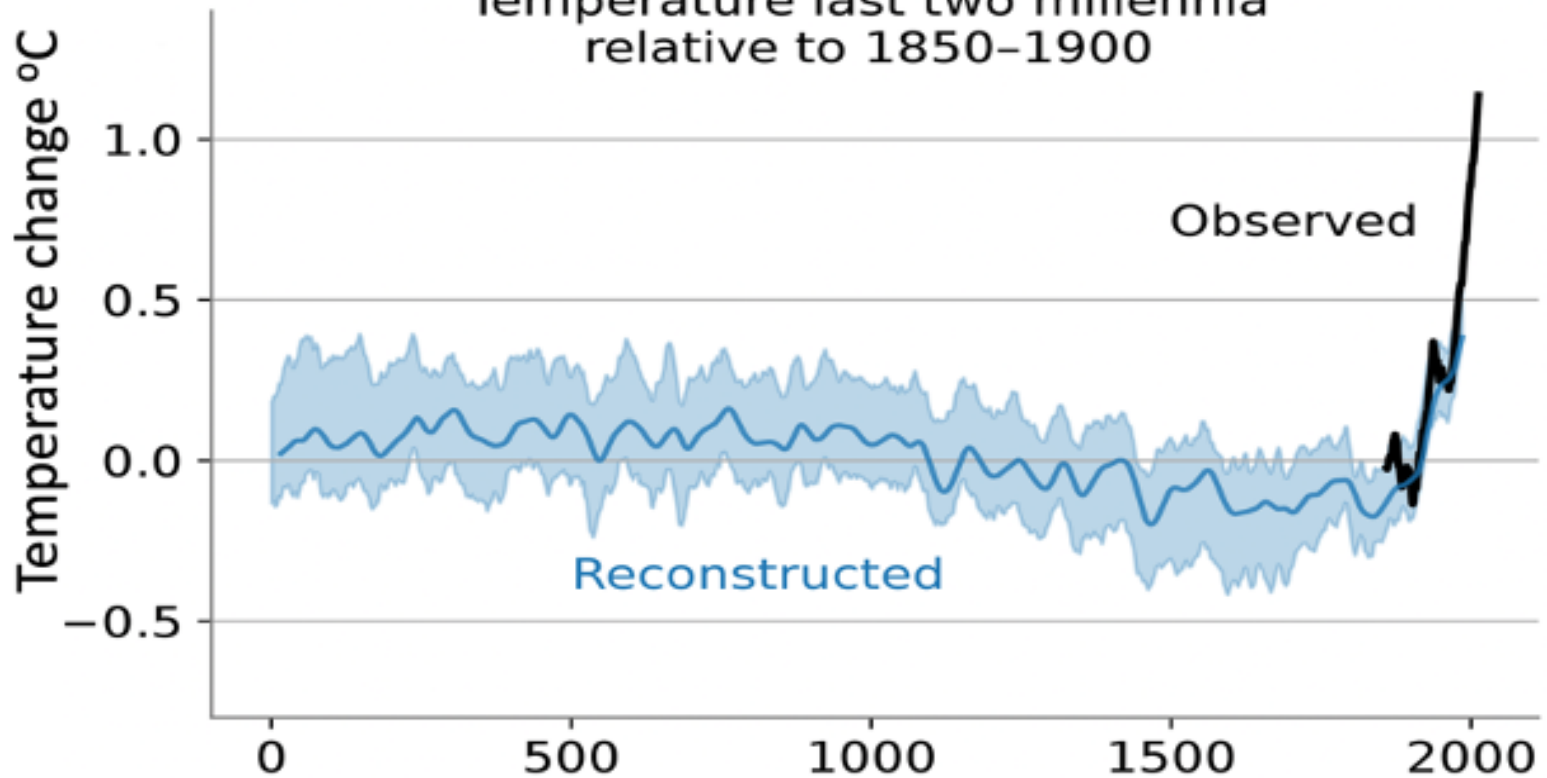
Images: Giulia Realdon

The two bottles at the beginning of the experiment and after adding the fizzy tablet to the left one and exposing them to a hot-bulb lamp.

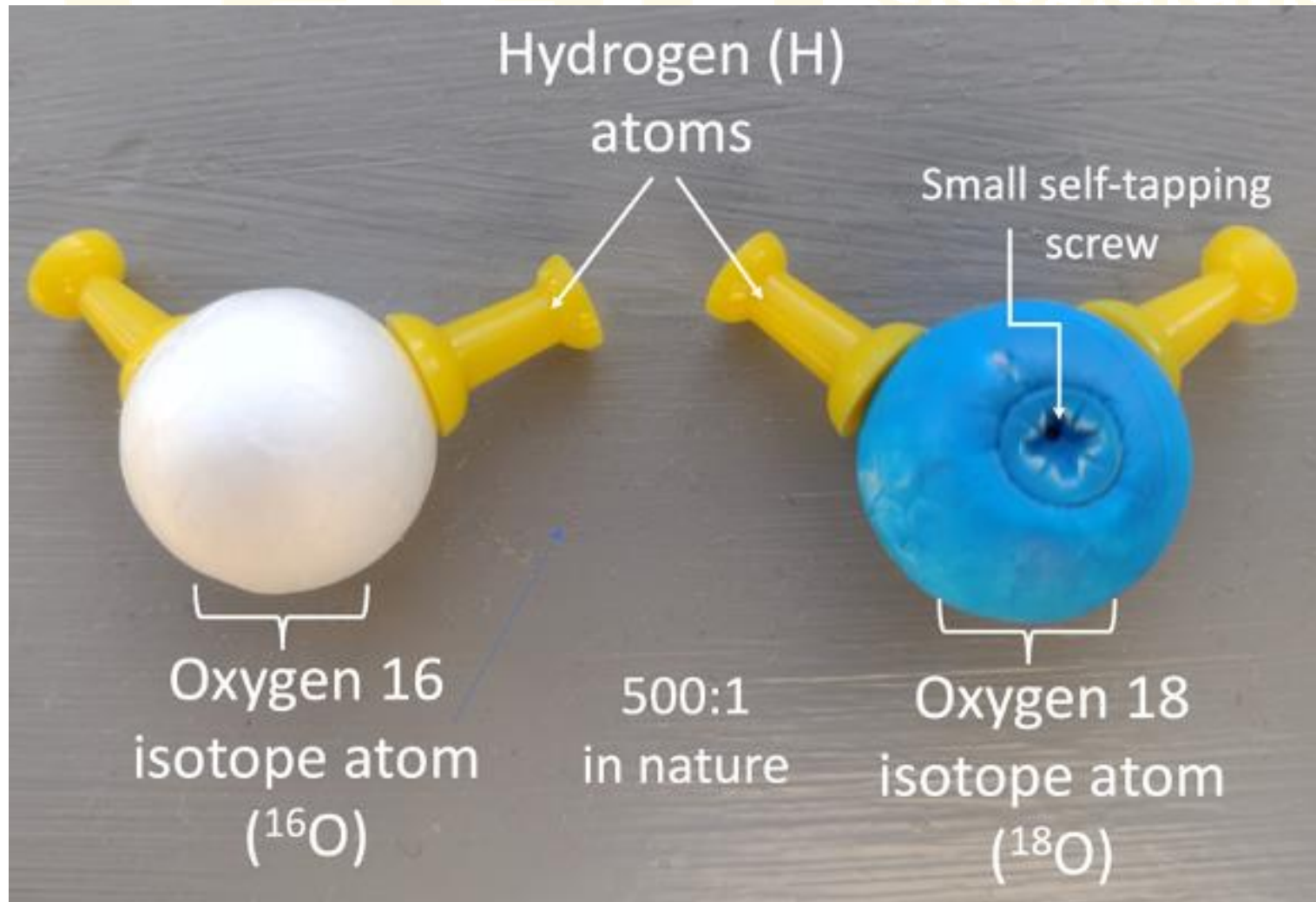
Past climate change.
How do we know?



Temperature last two millennia
relative to 1850–1900



Oxygen isotopes in water



Earth's Oxygen Thermometers

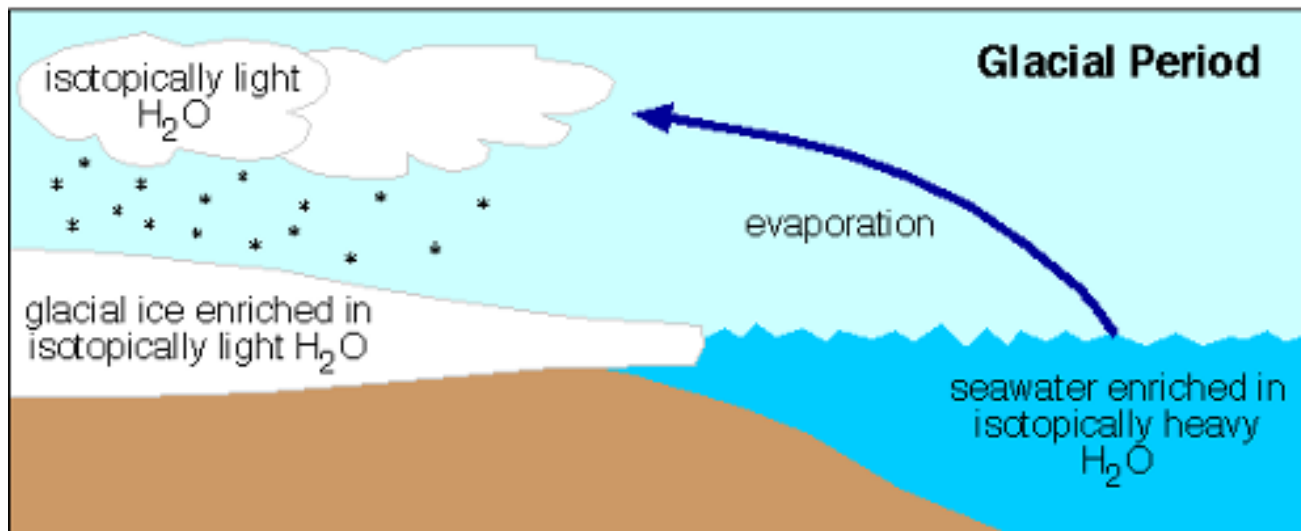
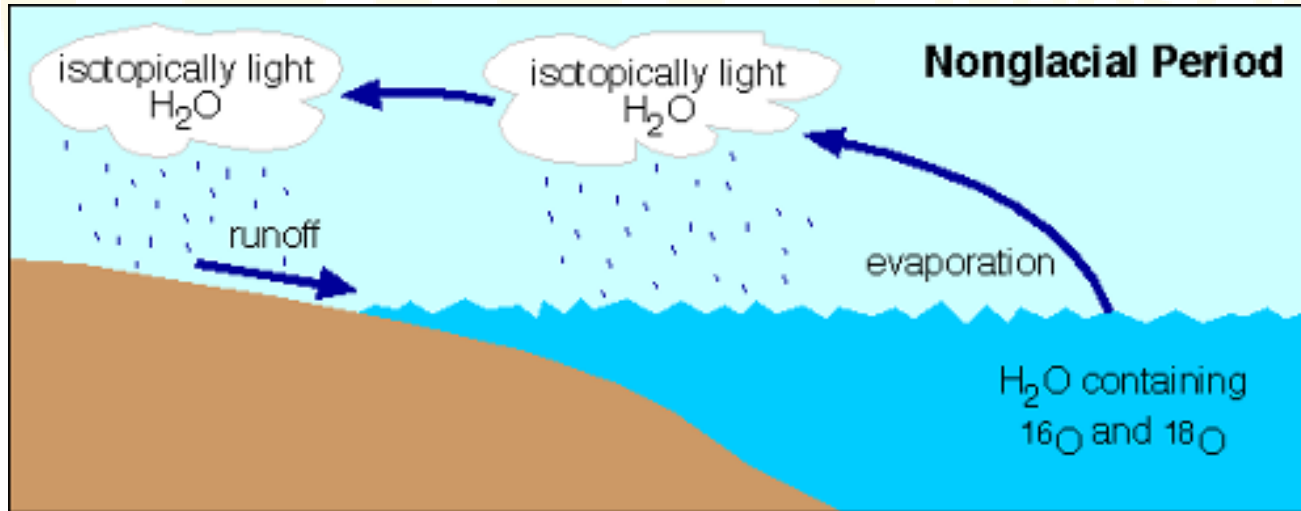
https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/440_Oxygen_thermometers.pdf

Oxygen isotope fractionation



Image: Pete Loader

Oxygen isotope fractionation

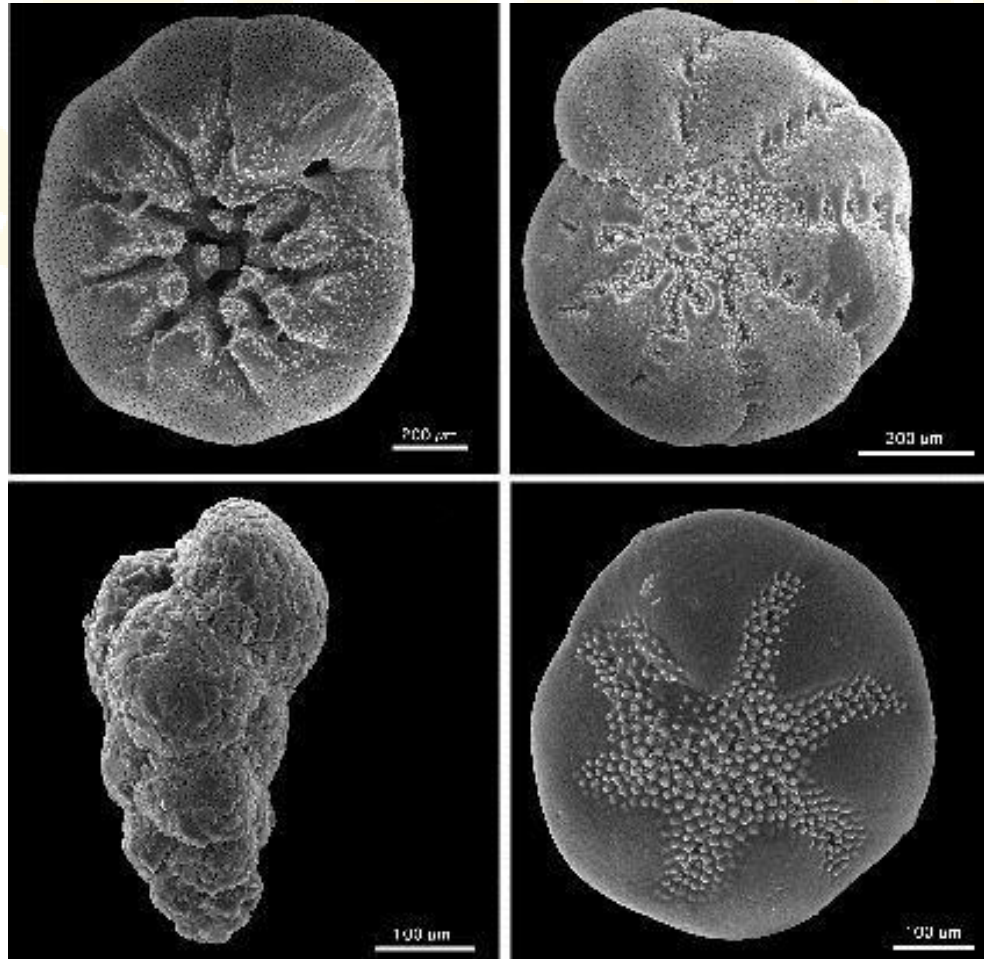


Oxygen isotope fractionation

European
Geosciences



Calcareous foraminifera



Carbonate sediment analysis

Earth's Oxygen Thermometers

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/440_Oxygen_thermometers.pdf

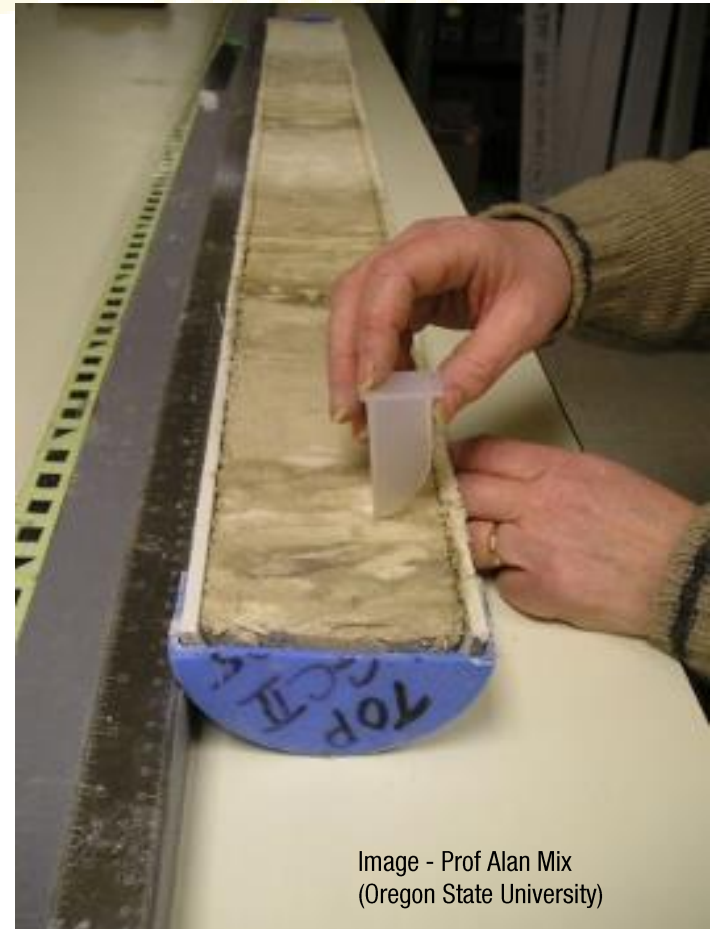
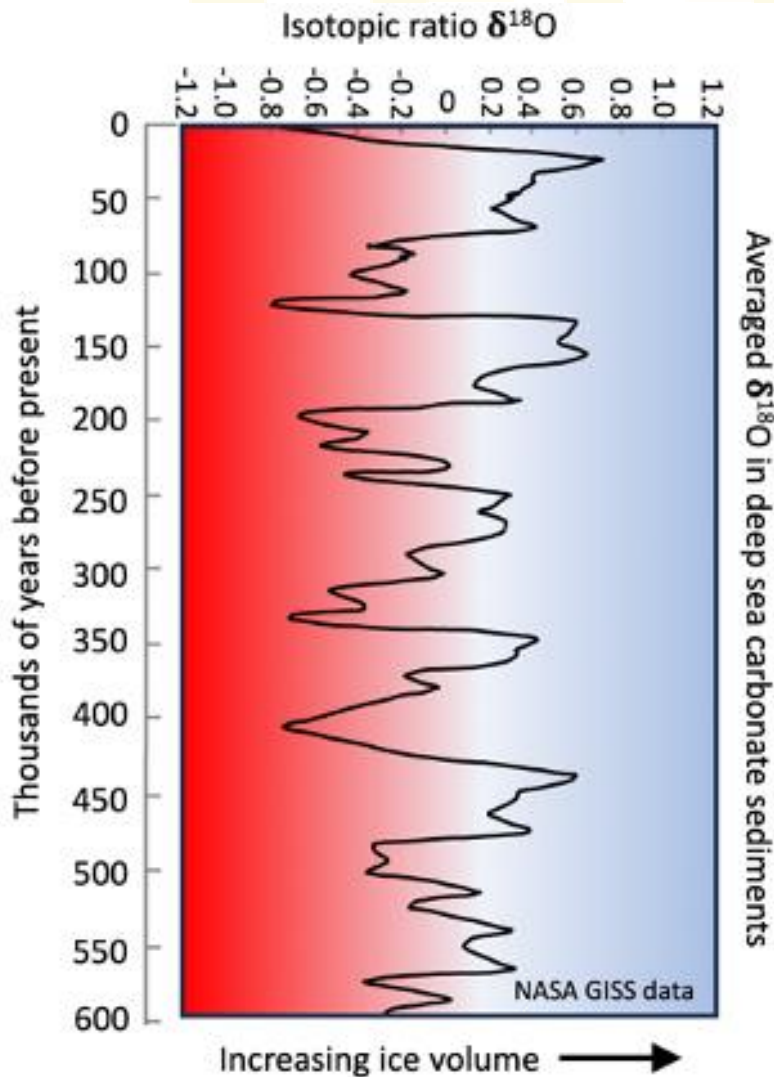
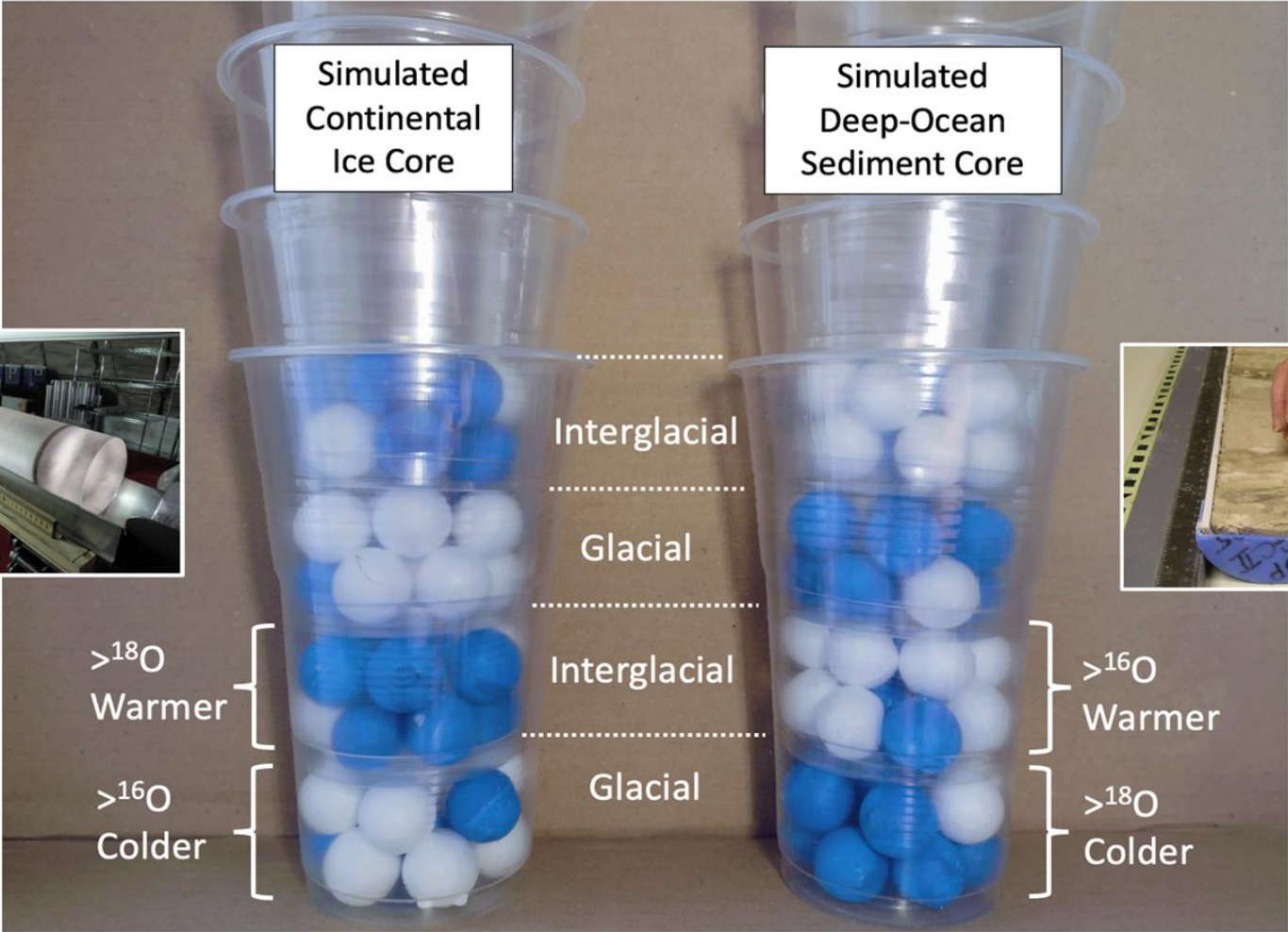


Image - Prof Alan Mix
(Oregon State University)

Ice core - ocean sediment core analysis

Earth's Oxygen Thermometers

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/440_Oxygen_thermometers.pdf



Credit: Heidi Roop, NSF

Credit: Prof Alan Mix

Image: Pete Loader

Sea level in a plastic cup

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/369_Global_sea_level.pdf

Imagine that the line in your plastic glass is the global sea level today.

Suggest as many ways as you can to change the level of water in the cup (up or down) without removing water from the top.

1. add ice or water;
2. heat the water (but many students may not know that heating water makes it expand a little);
3. make a hole in the cup so it leaks;
4. push up the base;
5. deform the sides (they may combine 4 and 5 together in 'deform the cup');
6. put things in the cup;
7. tilt the cup (when one side of the water will be higher);
8. change gravity (pupils usually do not suggest this).

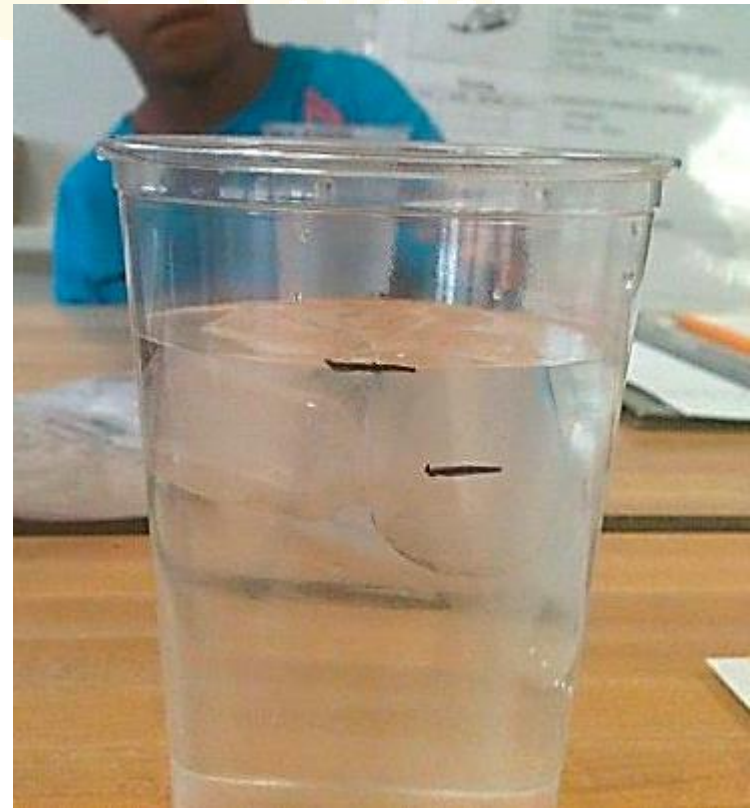
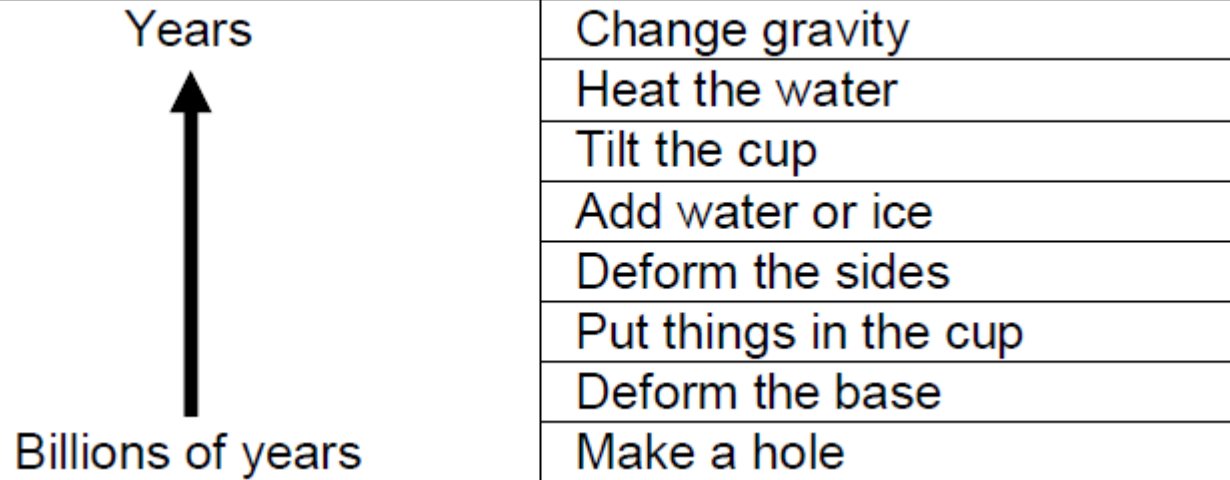


Image: Clinton Conrad

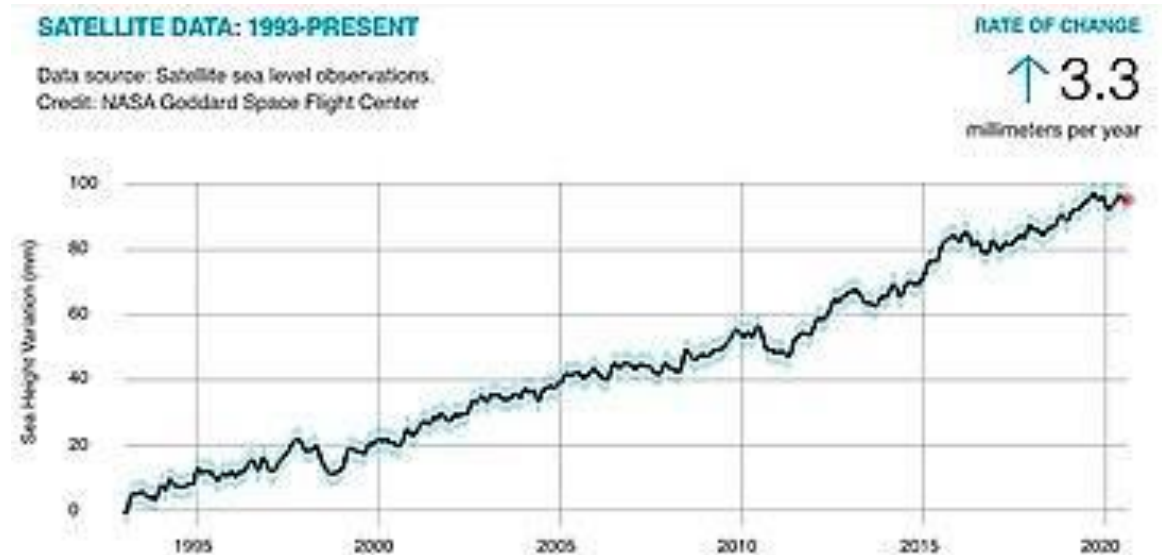
Sea level in a plastic cup

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/369_Global_sea_level.pdf



Relative **time scales**
of the processes
involved

Sea level change in mm per year from 1993 to 2020 based on satellite data. (NASA – in the public domain).

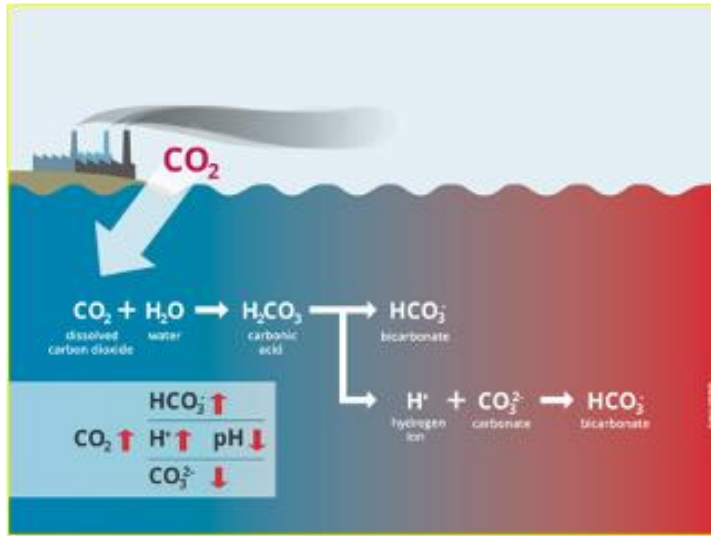
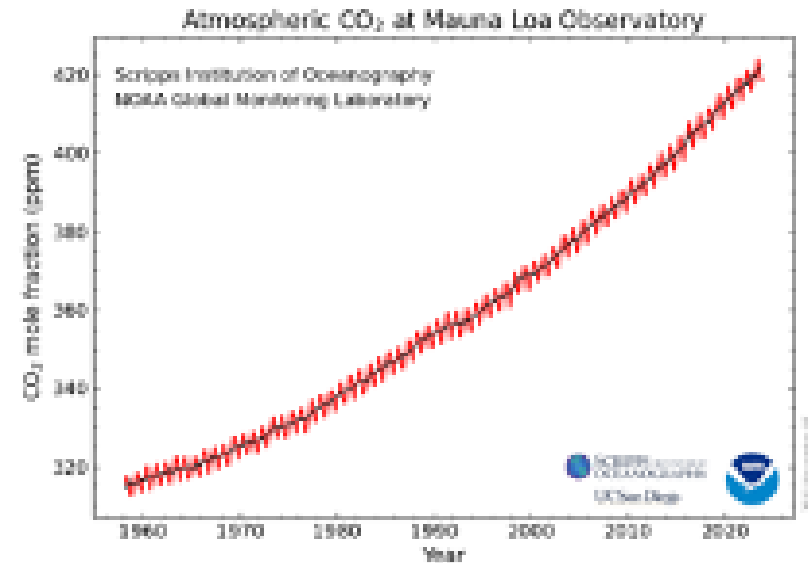


Ocean acidification – The other CO₂ problem

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/439_Ocean_acidification.pdf

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- It is estimated that, from 1750 to 2021, 474 Pg of carbon (1 Pg = 10¹⁵ g = billion tonnes) were emitted as CO₂ from the use of fossil fuels.
- About half of the CO₂ emitted remains in the atmosphere, now exceeding 400 parts per million, the rest is partially dissolved in the ocean.



- The consequence is that, since the Industrial Revolution, the pH of the ocean's surface waters has decreased from 8.21 to 8.10, indicating about a 30% increase in acidity.
- This means that as the ocean acidifies, the concentration of CO₃²⁻ carbonate ions decreases.
- Calcifying organisms, such as molluscs, corals, and various plankton species, need carbonate ions to build their shells or skeletons

(Images: Bioacid.de and NOAA, permitted non-commercial use)

Ocean acidification – The other CO₂ problem

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/439_Ocean_acidification.pdf

THE ACTIVITY

MATERIALS: a small glass bottle or beaker, a drinking straw, “distilled” (demineralised) water for ironing, universal liquid pH indicator with colour scale, a few shells (or eggshell) reduced to powder, a teaspoon

- Use a small bottle or boiling tube 2/3 filled with distilled (or deionized) water to simulate ocean water*
- Add some drops of universal pH indicator to the water until it becomes a medium-green colour and mix it by rotating the bottle.
- Observe the colour and compare it with the pH colour scale
- Use a straw and blow into the solution for at least 30 seconds.
- Estimate the new pH value
- Add one teaspoon of shell powder to the solution and stir it by rotating the bottle.
- Observe what is happening in the solution



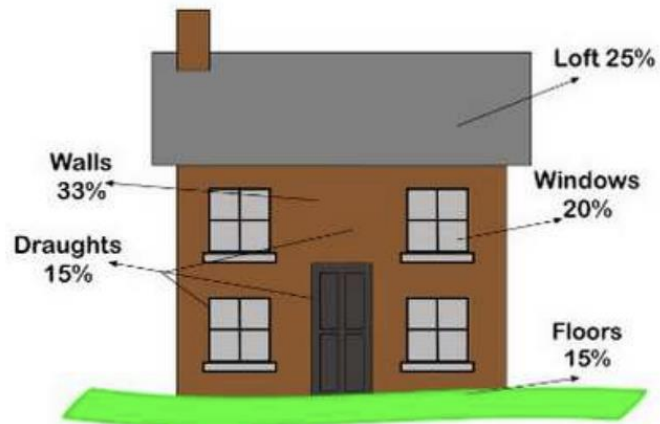
***Disclaimer:** this simplified model using distilled water does not consider the buffering power of seawater resulting from dissolved ions like HCO₃⁻ and CO₃²⁻.

Images: Giulia Realdon

How do I choose the best insulation ?

Investigating enhanced insulation for building

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/400_Net_zero_Building_insulation.pdf



Heat loss diagram for a typical house (% figures rounded up)
© Eco-Home-Essentials

This diagram shows that much heat can be wasted from a house that is not well insulated. If all buildings were well insulated, heating costs would be reduced and energy consumption lowered.

Properties of some currently-used insulating materials

Open structure

- Fibreglass
- Mineral wool (rock wool)
- Sheep's wool
- Horse hair
- Straw bales
- Straw or reed thatch for roofs
- Cellulose materials such as newspaper and cardboard

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Fibreglass in the loft of a church
Peter Kennett



Straw bale building, Centre for Alternative
Technology Machynlleth, Wales
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British sheep's wool insulation



CosyWool Roll
Insulation for lofts and floors
From £5.64 per sq metre (Ex VAT)

CosyWool Slabs
Ideal for walls and roofs
From £6.93 per sq metre (Ex VAT)

UltraWool
Great Acoustic Insulation
From £9.90 per sq metre (Ex VAT)

BUY NOW BUY NOW BUY NOW

Example of sheep's wool insulation



Example of Cellulose materials insulation

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Properties of some currently-used insulating materials

- closed cellular structure

These materials have better insulating values than the materials in the previous slides but are derived from the petrochemical industry and so have a bigger carbon footprint than other materials.

Polyethylene boards

Polystyrene boards

Polyisocyanurate boards



left - Polyisocyanurate board
above - charred board

Elizabeth Devon

How do I choose the best insulation ?

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Ask the pupils

The motion for a classroom debate is “The best and most effective insulation for buildings is Polyisocyanurate boards even though they are made from by-products of the petro-chemical industry”.

Ask the pupils, in small groups, to consider their arguments for and against the motion for that debate. They must be able to give reasons both for and against the motion.



How do I choose the best insulation ?

Investigating enhanced insulation for building

[https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/400 Net zero Building insulation.pdf](https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/400%20Net%20zero%20Building%20insulation.pdf)

Back up:

An investigation into the properties of various insulation materials for buildings with a discussion on their advantages and disadvantages



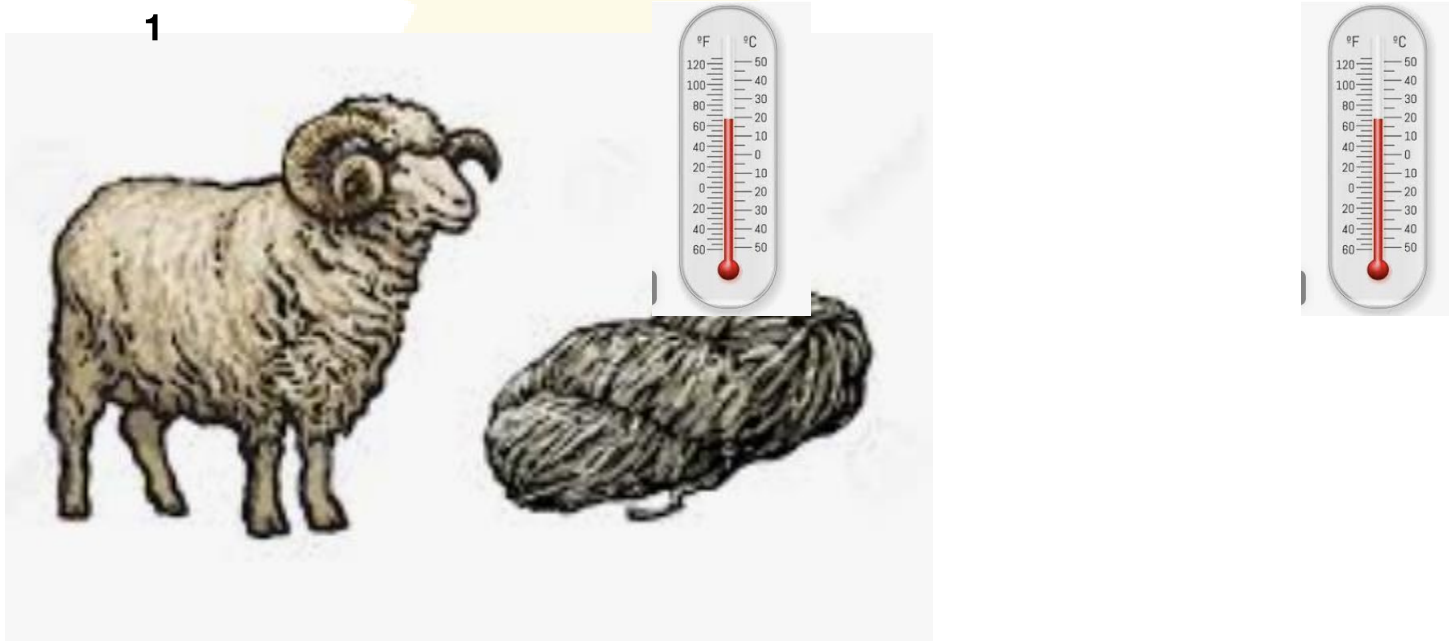
How do I choose the best insulation ?

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Possible experiments

1



If you let a thermometer in wool and another in the air, are you going to see a difference after 30 minutes ?

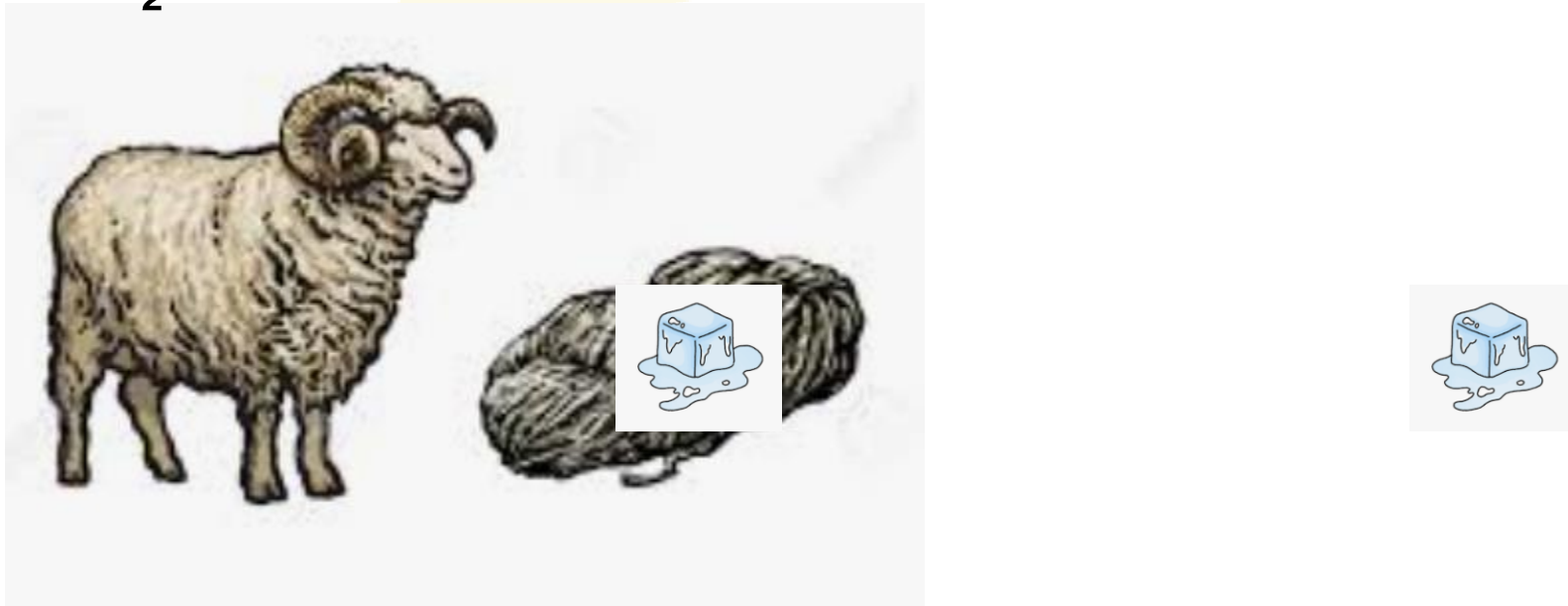
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Possible experiments

2



If you let a ice cube in wool and another in the air, which one will melt the quickest ?

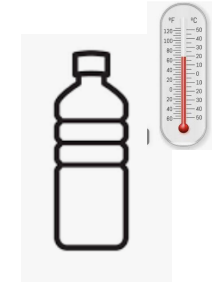
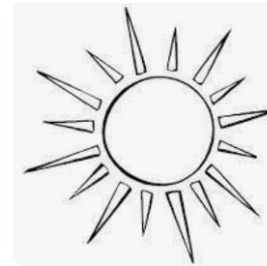
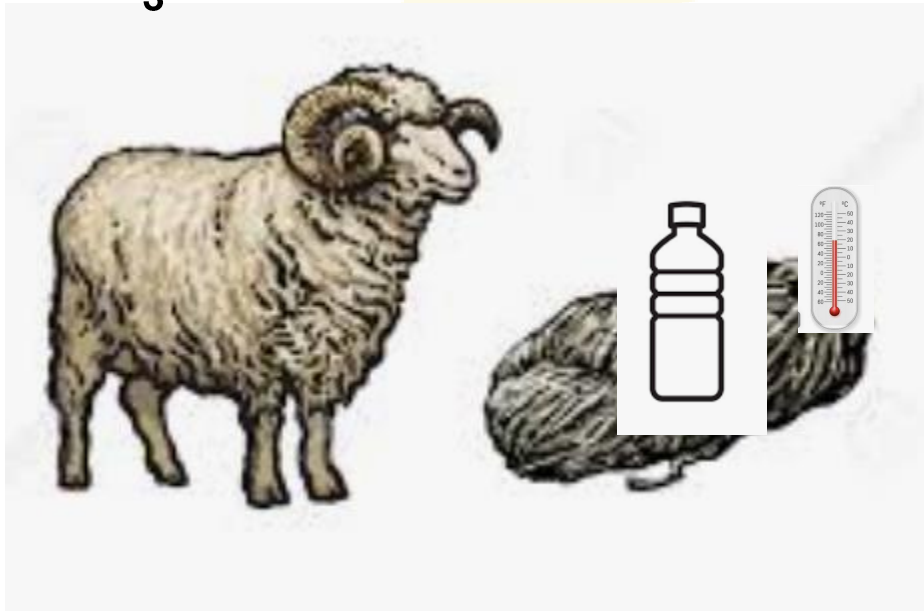
How do I choose the best insulation ?

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https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/400_Net_zero_Building_insulation.pdf

Possible experiments

3



If you let two bottles outside under the sun (and previously in the fridge) and if wool is around one of them, are you going to see any temperature differences of water after 30 minutes ?

A tribute to Professor Chris King

(1949 – 2022)

GEFO run this workshop in the memory and honor of
Professor Chris King.

He was a guide and an inspiration not only for us but for many generations of Geoscience teachers across the world.





Images: Giulia Realdon, Xavier Juan

Bring EGU workshops to your area!

- This and **other workshops** are also available **free of charge** (funded, up to a certain number, by EGU) in your area
- **How?**
 - Identify topics of interest and possible dates
 - **Write to the GEFO in your country** (see next slide) to check availability
 - Collect at least 10-15 registrations
 - Provide a suitable classroom for the activity (projector, microphone, if needed, water, other depending on activity required)

Contacts to request EGU or IUGS-COGE GEFO for teachers' workshops

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Togo	Pauline Yawoa da Costa	dzycosta@yahoo.fr

Don't forget to fill in the evaluation form

- Go to: <https://forms.gle/e7x6YVs6so5fmGr48>
- Or frame the QR code:



Image: Pete Loader



In memory of Chris King
1949 - 2022

TEACHING CLIMATE CHANGE: USING **Earth Learning Idea**

Pete Loader, Giulia Realdon, Guillaume Coupechoux, Xavier Juan, and Gina P. Correia. (EGU Geoscience Education Field Officers)

- The **EARTHLEARNINGIDEA** ("ELI") concept was born in 2007 to present Earth science teaching workshops to teachers.
- Each activity presents an Earth science topic using an interactive, inquiry-based approach to educate and motivate pupils, whilst developing their thinking and investigative skills.
- ELIs, in English, are currently being published at one per fortnight and translated into 10 other languages.
- They have been used as the basis for teacher training education workshops in many countries by GEFOs.

www.earthlearningidea.com



Earth Learning Idea
Innovative, Earth-related teaching ideas

- **EGU Geoscience Education Field Officers (GEFO)** are a team of geoscience teachers and researchers who provide professional development to schoolteachers who have elements of geoscience in their teaching curricula, through interactive hands-on workshops.
- The team is supported by the European Geosciences Union Education Committee and is active in thirteen countries around Europe.

Greenhouse effect in a bottle




TEMPERATURE & CARBON DIOXIDE

Graph showing Temperature (°C) and Carbon Dioxide (PPM) from 1880 to 2021. The temperature shows a clear upward trend, and the carbon dioxide levels show a steady increase.

- An investigation to simulate the effect of increased CO₂ levels on Earth temperature (global warming). CO₂ is added to the air in a bottle to test its effect on temperature when the closed system is heated by a lamp (sun).

Earth's oxygen thermometers




Labels: Evaporated water in clouds, Simulated Continental Ice Core, Simulated Deep-Ocean Sediment Core, Interglacial, Glacial, >¹⁸O Warmer, >¹⁶O Colder, Ocean.

• A simulation of changing oxygen isotopes ratios (¹⁸O:¹⁶O) measured in deep-ocean sediments and continental ice cores over time.

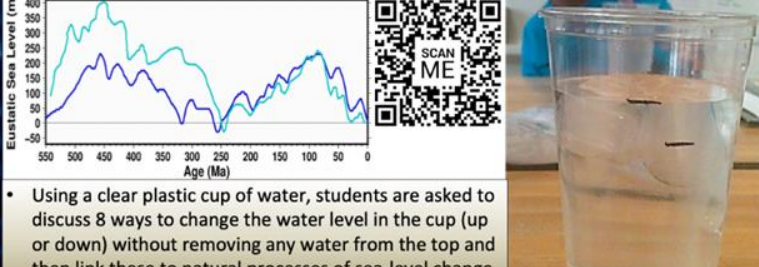
• This is used as a proxy for changes in global temperatures and continental ice sheet development. Coloured balls are used to demonstrate isotope fractionation during evaporation.

Ocean Acidification



• A demonstration of how increased CO₂ levels in the atmosphere affect the calcium carbonate shells and skeletons of marine organisms.

Sea level in a plastic cup



Graph: Eustatic Sea Level (m) vs Age (Ma). The graph shows sea level fluctuations over the last 500,000 years.

• Using a clear plastic cup of water, students are asked to discuss 8 ways to change the water level in the cup (up or down) without removing any water from the top and then link these to natural processes of sea-level change.

Choosing the best insulation



Heat loss diagram for a typical house (% figures rounded up) © Eco-Home-Essentials

Loft 25%, Walls 33%, Windows 20%, Floors 15%, Draughts 15%

• An investigation into the properties of various insulation materials for buildings to promote a discussion on their advantages and disadvantages.

Contact details.

Web: www.earthlearningidea.com
Follow us on X: @ELI_Earth
E-mail: pete@earthlearningidea.com



Teaching Climate Change: Evidence and effects

Gina P. Correia | Giulia Realdon | Guillaume Coupechoux |
Pete Loader | Xavier Juan

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Geoscience Information for Teachers | Vienna 15th April 2024



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