



Debate Energy in Israel

Many **policies** related to the **environment** can have **consequences** for **local communities, ecosystems,** and even other **countries**. For this reason, it's important to consider all the potential **impacts** of a policy. In this activity, your students will have the chance to practice this skill by debating real environment-related issues and policies. This will allow your students to practice their leadership, teamwork, debating, speaking and research skills.

In order for your students to gain more in-depth knowledge on an important environmental issue, each group will debate over different topics that are each relevant to an overarching problem: Energy in Israel.

Instructions

On the activity sheet, we have provided 2 different debate topics and relevant background information for each. We recommend splitting the class into 2 - one set of students per topic - and providing each set of students with their relevant activity sheet. Each set of students should then be split in half - one side "for" and the other side "against" the proposed action/policy.

Each group should be given at least a few days to research and prepare their opening remarks, questions, and closing remarks.

Before the start of each debate, we recommend having someone read out the problem statement. Each debate will last approximately 18 minutes and should be done in front of the rest of the class. The debate should take on the following format:

The debate should follow this structure:

- **Opening remarks** (two minutes per group): Each group presents their arguments.
- **Intra-Panel Discussion** (10 minutes total): Following opening remarks, groups engage with one another directly in question-answer format. The discussion is guided by arguments from opening statements. Each team will ask five questions.
 - Each question should be a maximum of 20 seconds
 - Each answer should be a maximum of 40 seconds
- **Closing remarks** (two minutes per group)

After each debate, the rest of the class can vote to decide who was most convincing.

We welcome feedback and would be delighted to hear your thoughts on this activity. Feel free to send an email to schools@climatescience.org and we'll be sure to get back to you soon :)