



Southeastern Forests and Climate Change

Icebreaker for SFCC Educator Workshops

Time Required: 15 minutes

Materials: 4 pieces of newsprint/large paper, markers, tape

Procedure:

- Before the workshop begins, write the following questions on newsprint or large paper (one question per paper).
 1. What evidence do you see that climate might be changing?
 2. What evidence do you see that climate might not be changing?
 3. What questions or confusions do you have about climate and climate change?
 4. What are your hot buttons—what irritates you about climate and climate change discussions?
- Remind the group that today's workshop will introduce an educational resource about climate change and that people have differing levels of background knowledge and perspectives about climate change. The goal of this icebreaker is to goal is create an open dialogue and a comfortable learning environment, where participants can listen to and respect others' ideas.
- Divide the participants into 4 groups, and give each group one question to discuss.
- Ask workshop participants to write responses to the question on the big paper, and then to circulate to comment on the other questions.
- Post the papers around the room in highly visible places so all participants can see them. Have each group share their responses.
- Conclude by letting participants know that this workshop will include sessions to discuss climate change science, how to teach about climate change, and that we will do our best to answer the questions raised (or find answers and report back after the workshop). Keep the papers posted throughout the day, so you can reference them as specific topics come up that address or answer any of the questions.