



Halloween 2019 Climate Crisis SOS Notes



0°C change (baseline):

Pre-industrial times during the "Little Ice Age"...

The Day After Tomorrow (2004) has a global super storm caused by melting ice caps trigger a new Ice Age. The film did raise awareness of global warming but the apocalyptic setting confused people as to what they could do to help.

Under 1°C change:

Forget it! That train has left the station...

Snowpiercer (2013) is a cautionary tale set in a future where a failed geoengineering experiment to counteract climate change plunges the planet into a new ice age. The only people to survive are those on a constantly moving train that has a tyrannical class system.

1°C-2°C change:

Sea level rises of 5-7 metres. Droughts, wildfires, storms...

Sharknado 5: Global Swarming (2017) sees a deadly sharknado travelling the world. And the reason for the original Sharknado? Climate change.

2°C-3°C change:

The Amazon Rainforest is dying. Water and food are harder to find...

Soylent Green (1973) is a detective story set in a dystopian 2022. The Earth is overpopulated, totally polluted and all natural resources have been exhausted. People live on Soylent Green. The closing line is iconic.

3°C-4°C change:

The tipping point of no return. The planet is forever different...

Godzilla: King of the Monsters (2019) has a group of eco-terrorists waking up various gigantic monsters. Only Godzilla can save the day, but at what cost?

4°C-5°C change:

Sea level rises reach 70 metres. People cannot survive in the tropics. Southern Europe is desert....

Mad Max: Fury Road (2015) tells the story of a group's attempt to escape a tyrannical patriarch and find the idyllic "Green Place". But the Green Place turns out to be a poisonous swamp.

5°C-6°C change:

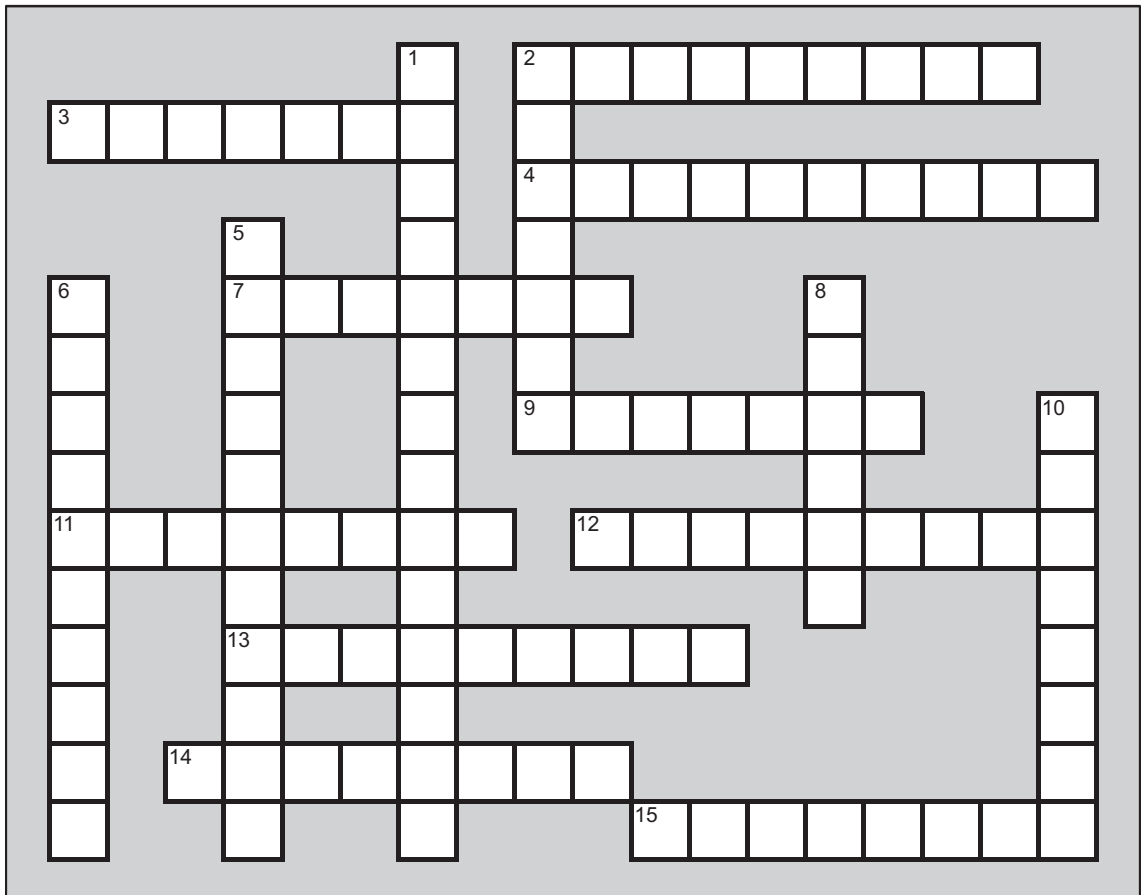
251 million years ago global temperatures rose by 6°C. 95% of all living things died.

Beasts of the Southern Wild (2012) tells the story of six year old Hush Puppy (played by youngest-ever Best Actress Oscar nominee Quvenzhané Wallis). While fictional the story was inspired by real isolated communities in Southern Louisiana threatened by climate-driven erosion, extreme weather and rising sea levels.

Postscript:

As things stand the world will hit a 3°-4°C change by 2100. Such a world will only support around 1 billion people...

The words in the crossword are all found overleaf



Across →

- 2 Drained, worn out, almost gone (9)
- 3 Live (with difficulty) (7)
- 4 Over-powerful, cruel and unjust (10)
- 7 drops quickly (and dangerously) (7)
- 9 land slowly destroyed (7)
- 11 Remote - not close to towns and cities (8)
- 12 Imaginary, made up (9)
- 13 The male leader of a group or family (9)
- 14 Very, very big (8)
- 15 brought about, triggered, created (8)

Down ↓

- 1 technology to create worldwide change (14)
- 2 Not usual, very intense (7)
- 5 totally destructive on a world scale (11)
- 6 warning (10)
- 8 Very well known (6)
- 10 dirty and too bad to use (8)

