MICRONESIA

Micronesia is an area in the Pacific Ocean that is made up of thousands of islands. Over half a million people live on the coasts. Many people make a living by fishing or by working in tourism, such as diving. Sea levels have risen by eight inches on average in the last 150 years, which leads to homes flooding and forces people to move. What leads to sea-level rise, and how does sea level rise impact animals or people? Can you create a climate impact pathway that connects greenhouse gas emissions to sea level rise and impacts on humans?

THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

The Great Barrier Reef is the longest coral reef in the world (1400 miles long!) and is located off the coast of Australia. Coral reefs are home to fish, turtles, sharks, and other kinds of marine life. Corals are tiny animals that are very sensitive to water temperature. They turn white when the water is too warm, and if they stay white for too long, they will die. If the corals die, this is also bad for the creatures that depend on reefs for survival and for people who like to go diving on the reef. Can you create a climate impact pathway that connects greenhouse gas emissions to corals dying and impacts on other animals?

THE NORTH POLE/THE ARCTIC

The Arctic is at the North Pole. It is home to land and marine animals who depend on the ice to survive. Polar bears stand on the ice while they hunt for their favorite food-- seals. Ice in the North Pole is melting because the temperature of the earth and the water is getting warmer. If the ice melts too much, the polar bears won’t be able to hunt, so they won’t be able to eat. Can you create a climate impact pathway that connects greenhouse gas emissions to ice melting and impacts on animals?

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST-- HOME!

The area that we live in has lots of and lots of trees and usually gets plenty of rain. Climate change is causing less rainfall in this area and warmer temperatures than usual. With less rain, the trees are getting drier, and when temperatures get very warm, wildfires can spark more easily. Can you create a climate impact pathway that connects greenhouse gas emissions to an increase in wildfires?