

Is improving soil
management the
best way to
reduce carbon
dioxide levels in
the atmosphere?

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Research

In this activity you will be asked to debate the statement:

‘Improved soil management is the best way to reduce carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere.’



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Before you debate you need to be informed.

Research some of the latest developments to reduce carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere and find out more about improving soil management.

Use the links on the next slide as a starting point for your research 

What different ways are there to reduce carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere?

- Capture organic carbon in soils through better soil management
[Grounded: Keeping the carbon beneath our feet | Feature | RSC Education](#)
 - Mimic photosynthesis and turn carbon dioxide into fuels or feedstock chemicals
[Capturing carbon to help the environment | News | RSC Education](#)
 - Lock excess carbon dioxide away by turning it into rock
[Carbon dioxide gets stoned | Feature | RSC Education](#)
 - Use volcanic ash to increase the uptake of carbon dioxide by algae in the oceans
[Seeding the ocean against climate change | News | RSC Education](#)
 - Turn carbon dioxide into edible proteins
[Microbes and renewable energy turn carbon dioxide into edible protein | News | RSC Education](#)
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Prepare to debate

‘Improved soil management is the best way to reduce carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere.’

1. Have your research to hand. Be prepared to present an argument for either side. Make sure you include evidence to support any points you make.
2. Get into groups of three.
3. Allocate each member of your group to one of these roles:
 - person 1: the **starter and summariser**
 - person 2: the **builder**
 - person 3: the **challenger**

Debate

In your group of three, debate the statement: 'Improved soil management is the best way to reduce carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere.'

Each person must stick to their specific role:

The **starter/ summariser**

... starts off discussions between the builder and the challenger and then summarises their key points.

I'd like to begin
by saying ...

In summary
...

The **builder**

... builds on the previous points made.

Building on
that idea ...

The **challenger**

... presents an alternative idea or challenges the builder by asking for evidence.

What evidence do
you have to support
that comment?

I hear what
you are saying
but ...