

Jeff Bezos promises \$2 billion to help nature

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Many countries at the COP26 climate change conference are making promises to help Earth. They have signed agreements to end deforestation and cut methane emission levels by 30 per cent by 2030. Bosses of global companies are

also at COP26. Jeff Bezos, the founder of Amazon, made a speech on Tuesday. He promised to give \$2 billion to help nature. He said the money would restore landscapes to their more natural state. He also wants to transform food systems to make food production more sustainable. Mr Bezos also set up The Bezos Earth Fund in 2020. This is a \$10-billion project to help fight climate change. In September, this fund gave \$1 billion to help threatened indigenous peoples.

Jeff Bezos said he decided to give more money to protect the planet after going into space in July. He said that looking at Earth from space made him understand the importance of helping our planet. He said: "Looking back at Earth from up there, the atmosphere seems so thin, the world so...fragile." In his COP26 speech, he said his trip into space changed his feelings about our planet. He said: "I was told that seeing Earth from space changes the lens through which you see the world, but I was not prepared for how much that would be true." He said it was time for all countries and corporations to act. He said: "In this critical year...we must all stand together to protect our world."

Sources: [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com) / [forbes.com](https://www.forbes.com) / [euronews.com](https://www.euronews.com)

Writing

The world does not care enough about nature to act to help it. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

climate change / conference / promises / Earth / methane / Amazon / indigenous / money / planet / space / fragile / feelings / true / countries / corporations / critical

True / False

- 1) Every country at COP26 has promised to end deforestation. T / F
- 2) Many countries will cut methane emissions levels by 30% by 2030. T / F
- 3) Jeff Bezos wants to transform food systems. T / F
- 4) The Bezos Earth Fund gave \$10 billion to help indigenous peoples. T / F
- 5) Mr Bezos' trip into space made him want to help Earth. T / F
- 6) Mr Bezos said he saw a fragile Earth and a thin atmosphere from space. T / F
- 7) Mr Bezos was fully prepared for looking at Earth from space. T / F
- 8) Bezos said everybody had to stand together in a line. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. promises | a. ready |
| 2. agreements | b. started |
| 3. transform | c. real |
| 4. set up | d. deals |
| 5. threatened | e. safeguard |
| 6. protect | f. serious |
| 7. fragile | g. pledges |
| 8. prepared | h. change |
| 9. true | i. endangered |
| 10. critical | j. delicate |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you know about Jeff Bezos?
- c) Would you like to go into space?
- d) Do you think going into space would change you?
- e) What is so fragile about Earth?
- f) Do you think countries and corporations will act?
- g) How critical is this year?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Jeff Bezos?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. making promises | a. of helping our planet |
| 2. They have signed agreements to | b. peoples |
| 3. cut methane emission | c. space |
| 4. make food production more | d. all stand together |
| 5. help threatened indigenous | e. end deforestation |
| 6. after going into | f. would be true |
| 7. understand the importance | g. levels |
| 8. the atmosphere seems | h. to help Earth |
| 9. I was not prepared for how much that | i. so thin |
| 10. In this critical year...we must | j. sustainable |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you know about COP26?
- Do you think COP26 will help to save the planet?
- What do we need to do to save the planet?
- How dangerous are methane emissions?
- How useful with Jeff Bezos' \$2 billion be?
- How would you help the planet with \$2 billion?
- Do we need to change our diet to make food more sustainable?
- How can we help indigenous people?

Spelling

- the COP26 climate change cfcreneone
- making essmrpoi to help Earth
- cut methane sosimeni levels by 30 per cent
- Jeff Bezos, the enfrudo of Amazon
- make food production more slesuibatan
- help hdernteeta indigenous peoples
- give more money to crtotpe the planet
- the psmertoahe seems so thin
- the world so... firlega
- I was not aerrpdpe for how much
- time for all countries and cptoraosrnio to act
- In this crictila year

Answers – Synonym Match

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. g | 2. d | 3. h | 4. b | 5. i |
| 6. e | 7. j | 8. a | 9. c | 10. f |

Role Play

Role A – Billionaire CEOs

You think billionaire CEOs are best at fighting climate change. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their fighters. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): oil companies, you and I or the UN.

Role B – Oil Companies

You think oil companies are best at fighting climate change. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their fighters. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): billionaire CEOs, you and I or the UN.

Role C – You and I

You think you and I are best at fighting climate change. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their fighters. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): oil companies, billionaire CEOs or the UN.

Role D – The United Nations

You think the UN is best at fighting climate change. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their fighters. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): oil companies, you and I or billionaire CEOs.

Speaking – Changers

Rank these with your partner. Put the best people / things to help fight climate change at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| • Jeff Bezos | • You and I |
| • Technology | • Greta Thunberg |
| • Oil companies | • Billionaire CEOs |
| • China | • The UN |

Answers – True False

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 F | 2 T | 3 T | 4 F | 5 T | 6 T | 7 F | 8 F |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.