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How Do Human Activities Contribute to Climate Change?

Climate change means Earth's weather is changing over time. Some places are getting hotter, storms are becoming stronger, and oceans are rising. But how does this happen? One big reason is human activity.

Every time people drive gas-powered cars, ride in airplanes, or use machines that burn oil or coal, they release something called carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the air. CO₂ is a greenhouse gas, which means it traps heat in Earth's atmosphere. The more CO₂ in the air, the warmer Earth gets.

Another human activity that affects the planet is cutting down trees. Trees are important because they take in CO₂ and give out clean oxygen. When forests are cut down for farming or building, fewer trees are left to remove CO₂ from the air. This causes greenhouse gases to build up even more.

More greenhouse gases in the atmosphere lead to a stronger greenhouse effect, which means Earth traps more heat. This can cause global warming, which is a rise in Earth's average temperature. Global warming leads to many problems: ice at the poles melts, sea levels rise, and animals lose their homes. Weather becomes more extreme, with more floods, droughts, and wildfires.

Luckily, people can make changes to help. Riding bikes, planting trees, saving electricity, and using clean energy like wind and solar power are all great ways to protect the planet.

Understanding how human actions affect the environment helps us make smarter choices. We can't stop climate change overnight, but we can all do small things that make a big difference.