



Experience real-time climate change: Environmental education at Jamtal glacier.

Andrea Fischer, Bernd Seiser, Lea Hartl, and Gebhard Bendler

Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Interdisciplinary Mountain Research, Innsbruck, Austria
(andrea.fischer@oeaw.ac.at)

Kids hear about climate change in everyday news, but, unlike grown-ups, they find it much harder to imagine changes over decades, i.e. much longer than their own life span. So how to teach them the issues of climate change? Jamtalferner is an Alpine glacier with an ongoing mass balance monitoring programme started in 1988/89. Surveys of glacier length changes by the Austrian Alpine Club date back even longer, so that the glacier retreat after the Little Ice Age is well documented. As the glacier is easy to access, at just one hour's easy walk from the mountain hut, Jamtalferner was selected to compile materials on climate change for the use in schools and for preparing excursions for a hands-on confrontation with climate change and to give an impression of decadal changes. The materials will be available at www.umweltbildung-jamtal.info and include time series of photographs, maps, tables, background information and exercises.