Student Directions

Check with your instructor for groups and how to share your results.

1. Students work in groups of four. Each member within the group will become an expert on one of the resources below. (All resources are found in the Google Slide provided.) Students spend five minutes observing and analyzing the data with the expectation that they need to be able to explain the data’s pattern and trends to their groups.
For over 20 years, satellite altimeters have measured the sea surface height of our ever-changing oceans. Credit - NASA

Data source: Satellite sea level observations. Credit: GSFC/PO.DAAC

These line graphs plot variation in ice mass for Antarctica and Greenland since April 2002.
Resource 4: Greenland Ice Mass Variation since April 2002 data table.
- The data table shows the variation, or change, in the ice mass of the Greenland Ice Sheet since April 16, 2002. The data measurements closest to
2. After time to analyze data has passed, students fill out their square on the chart (on the PDF or Google Slide). Students with the same resource from each group come together to discuss what they learned. Students address the following questions in the space for each resource.
   - Summarize your resource clearly.
   - What do you still need clarification on from within your resource?
   - What was the significance of the information you learned?

3. Now the original group of four from Step 1 return together. Each member has two minutes to summarize what their resource group has discussed. Students need to fill in the other three parts as group members share. They can use the questions above as a guide for what they should share out.

4. After each member had a chance to share their summary, together the groups need to answer:
   - What do the data tell you?
   - What was similar within resources?
   - What was different?

Teachers, these mini lessons/student activities are perfect "warm up" tasks that can be used as a hook, bell ringer, exit slip, etc. They take less than a class period to complete. Learn more on the "My NASA Data What are Mini Lessons?" page.

Teachers who are interested in receiving the answer key, please complete the Teacher Key Request and Verification Form. We verify that requestors are teachers prior to sending access to the answer keys as we’ve had many students try to pass as teachers to gain access.