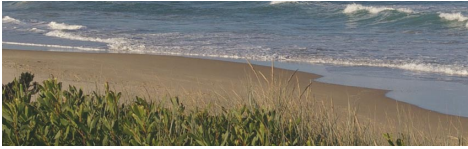


Adapting to Climate Change



L5A1/p1

What is climate change?

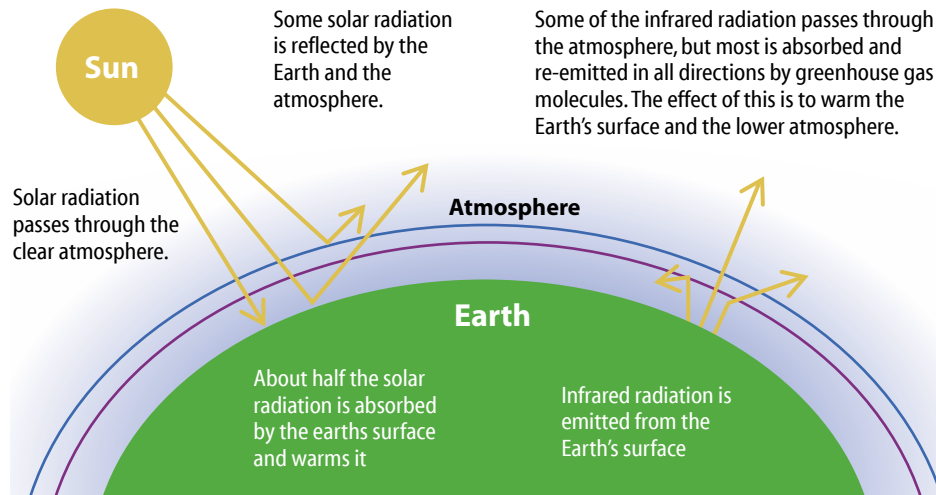


Figure 1: The greenhouse effect

1. Have you ever stepped inside a greenhouse? Even on a cold day a greenhouse is quite warm inside. Think about why this is so.

- Spend five minutes working in a team of three or four to brainstorm the possible reasons to account for this.
- Write down your team's ideas.
- Report your conclusion to your class.



2. When we talk about the greenhouse effect we are comparing the Earth and its atmosphere to a greenhouse. Suggest how the Earth and its atmosphere behaves like a greenhouse. (Clue: look carefully at the information shown in the illustration.)

3. Carbon dioxide is a 'greenhouse gas' that is present in our atmosphere, but it has been around as long as life has existed on Earth. So why is it a problem now?

4. Look at each of the words listed in the boxes on the left and find its matching definition in the boxes at the right. Use your ruler and a colored pencil to draw straight lines between

greenhouse effect

A kind of gas that retains heat energy from the sun and heats up the Earth's atmosphere

solar energy

A fossil fuel which we burn to generate energy in the form of electricity

greenhouse gas

An example of a greenhouse gas

carbon dioxide

The overall increase in environmental temperature around the world

fossil fuel

The overall effect of the atmosphere blanketing the Earth and keeping it warm enough to sustain life

global warming

Radiation that reaches us from the sun

climate change

Sources of energy such as coal and oil which produce carbon dioxide when we burn them

coal

The general change in climatic conditions around the world that result from overall higher environmental temperatures