

Wanda wonders WHAT the greenhouse effect is



Environmental Messenger

Acknowledge Our Part

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY THE EARTH IS NOT COLD AND LIFELESS LIKE THE MOON? IT IS THANKS TO THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT.

THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

What is the Greenhouse effect?

THE "greenhouse effect" is a natural process that is important for us. It keeps the Earth's temperatures warm enough for us to live. This warming effect is thanks to the atmosphere that surrounds the Earth.



Energy from the sun passes through the atmosphere and is absorbed by the Earth.



The Earth then releases some of that energy back into the atmosphere as heat. Some of the heat is redirected back to the earth's surface thanks to a mixture of heat-trapping gases known as greenhouse gases.

What are Greenhouse Gases?

Greenhouse gases are a group of gases that trap heat in the atmosphere warming the surface of the earth. They include Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and water (H₂O).

Questions

Did you know that the greenhouse effect is natural and important?

What could cause the Earth to heat up more?

When the Earth heats what happens to the amount of water in the atmosphere?

How do you see society influencing the greenhouse effect?

CO₂ ■ CO₂ is produced when things like coal, petroleum and wood are burned or when leaves decay on the forest floor. It is the gas that we breathe out.

CH₄ ■ Methane is a gas that is generated from the breakdown of organic material without oxygen. It is the primary component of natural gas and landfill gas. It is the gas that is produced in the body when we digest food.

H₂O ■ Water of course is a large part of our bodies. It is found on the earth in our oceans, lakes and rivers and is found in the air providing moisture, humidity and precipitation.



Everything works well when we are living in balance with the Earth.

Problems happen when we are out of balance.

You must be the change you wish to see in the world. Mahatma Gandhi



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Coming up next . . . "When things go wrong – Global Warming!"