

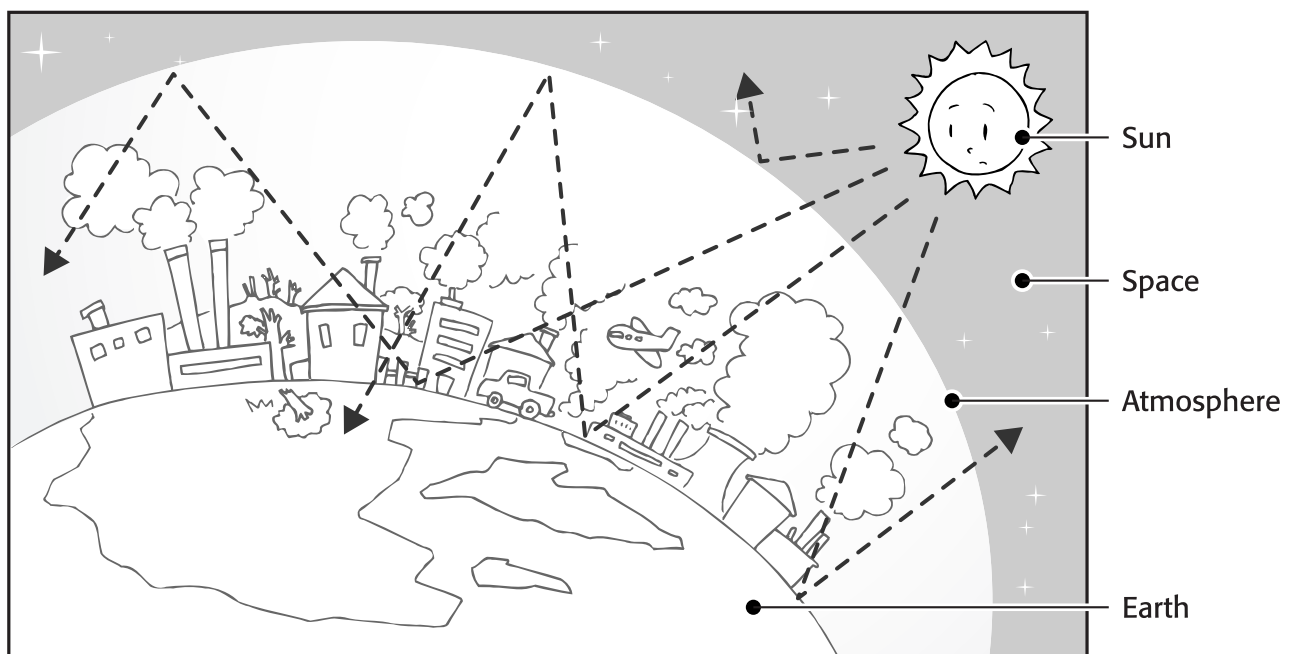
Global Warming

What is global warming? **Global warming** refers to the increase of the average surface temperature of the Earth, due to the increase in the amounts of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, in the atmosphere. These gases trap heat and prevent it from escaping from the Earth. It leads to a warmer Earth.

The principal sources of emissions of carbon dioxide are power plants, cars, and deforestation. A huge amount of carbon dioxide is released when power stations burn fossil fuels to generate electricity for our daily uses. Exhaust fumes from vehicles add to the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. When trees are cut down and burned, lots of carbon dioxide is released. With fewer trees, less carbon dioxide is absorbed from the atmosphere.

Over the past hundred years, global surface temperatures have risen 0.6°C – and they are still rising. Scientists predict that over the next century, world temperatures would go up another 1.5°C , and probably higher. Warmer temperatures would speed up the water cycle, which could lead to heavy precipitation, droughts, floods, rising water level, and wildfires. These abnormal changes would have a great impact on plants, wildlife, and humans.

Climate changes are happening because of what people are doing to the planet. To prevent the situation from getting worse, it is time for us to take action to protect our Earth.



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Write the sentences.

1. Write five things that could happen if global warming intensified.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Answer the questions.

2. What are the main sources of emissions of carbon dioxide?

3. How does deforestation intensify the effect of global warming?

4. How have global temperatures changed over the past century? And, how would it change in the future?
