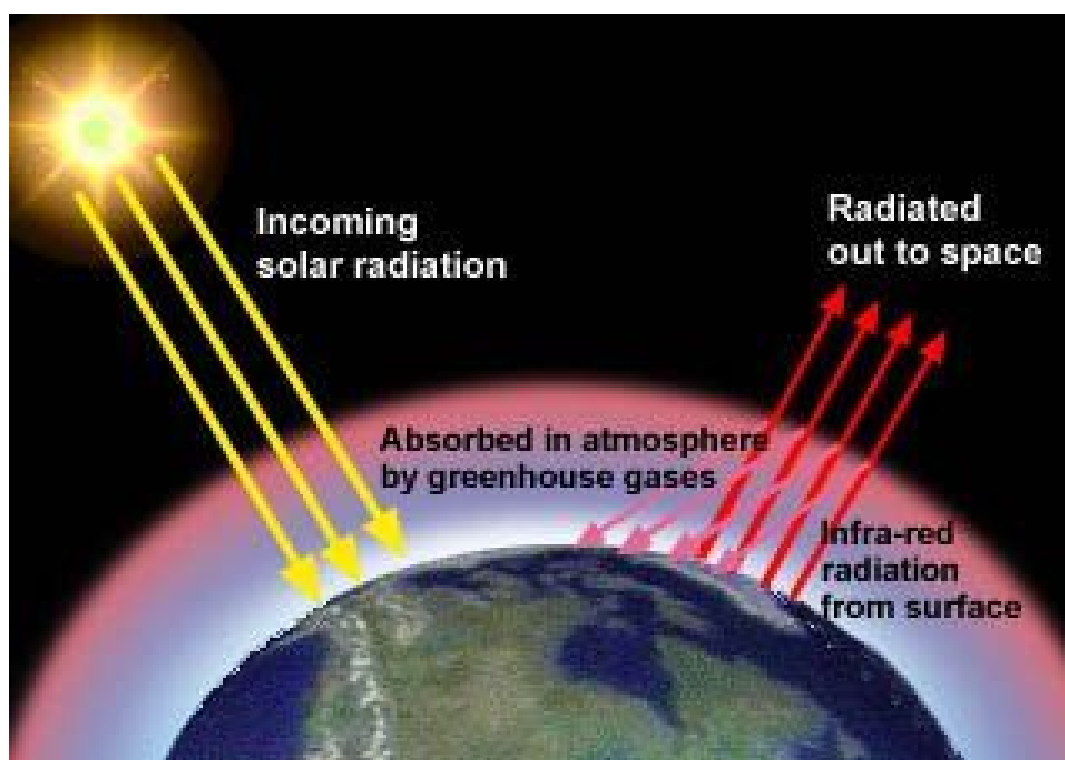


The Greenhouse effect

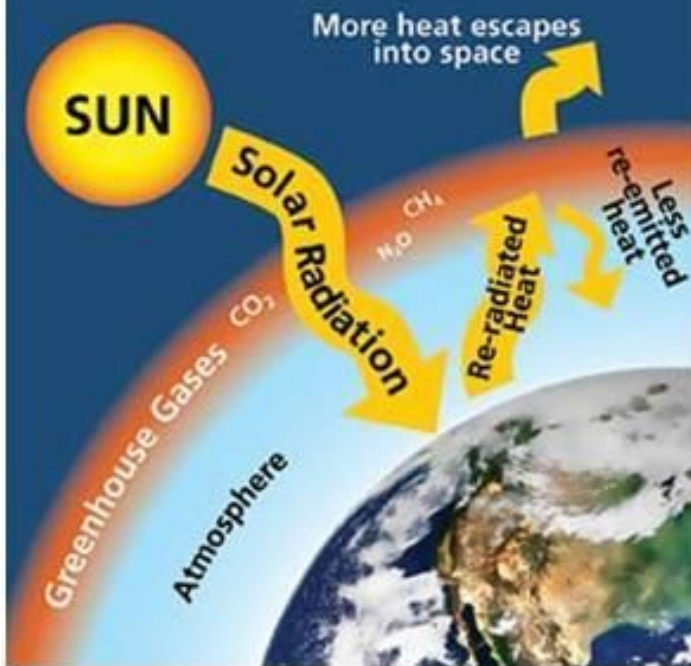
- Solar radiation enters the atmosphere called visible light
- The radiation is absorbed by the ground
- The ground then radiates infrared radiation (Heat)
- Infrared radiation is reflected back to the Earth by greenhouse gases
- Some radiation escapes keeping the energy in the Earth in balance
- Greenhouse gases: water vapor, methane, nitrous oxide and carbon dioxide
- The greenhouse effect keeps the planet warm
- Without the greenhouse effect, our planet would be frozen
- It is called the greenhouse effect because the atmosphere behaves the same as the glass in a greenhouse or the glass windows of a car



Global warming

- Anthropogenic - human caused
- When greenhouse gases increase in amount they trap more infrared radiation
- When more infrared radiation is trapped the Earth gets warmer
- Carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide are greenhouse gases that are produced by human activities
- Carbon dioxide is produced during combustion reactions and decomposition in landfills
- Methane is produced by farm waste and landfills
- Nitrous oxides are produced during combustion reactions
- Water vapour is increased when evaporation increases when oceans get warmer

Natural Greenhouse Effect



Human Enhanced Greenhouse Effect

