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Activities

The Greenhouse Effect

Name: _____ Date: _____

These days, there's lots of talk about the greenhouse effect. If you've ever stepped inside a steamy greenhouse, you know why. Rising temperatures threaten animals, plants, and ecosystems all over the globe. In this Planet Diary activity, you'll explore the impact of the greenhouse effect.

Directions

- Start with this animated look of the Greenhouse Effect. Click *Play* to advance through the animation. Answer questions 1 through 4 in the Workspace.
- To see the larger impact on the biosphere, go to Climate Hot Map. Zero in on the impact on North America. Click to explore the icons in your part of the country. Then answer the last question.

Workspace

1. What happens to solar energy that reaches Earth's surface?

2. What happens to the infrared radiation bouncing off Earth's surface when it hits gases in the atmosphere?

3. What has "drastically exaggerated" the greenhouse effect?

4. What are the environmental effects of rising global temperatures?

5. Summarize one specific example of climate change in your part of the country.

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