



EARTH'S GREENHOUSE EFFECT

Based on the information from *Earth's Greenhouse Effect* video, use the Word Bank to fill in the blanks.

1. Without an atmosphere, the earth would be 30 degrees Celsius cooler than it is today.
2. The planet emits enough long wave radiation into space to balance the solar radiation absorbed by it (radiative equilibrium).
3. Most of this radiation is emitted by the atmosphere, instead of the earth's surface. Only 10% actually escapes into space.
4. The rest is absorbed by clouds and greenhouse gases.
5. The two most abundant of these gases are water vapor and carbon dioxide.
6. Short-wave radiation from the sun passes through these gases, but long-wave radiation reflected by the surface of the earth is absorbed by them and then is re-emitted in all directions. About half is directed back toward the surface of the earth.
7. This causes a continual exchange of long-wave radiation between the surface of the earth and the atmosphere above it.
8. Trapping of long-wave energy is called Greenhouse Effect, and enhances the surface temperature of the earth.

solar	short	carbon dioxide	sun
long	re-emitted	Greenhouse Effect	enhances
warmer	diminishes	methane gas	atmosphere
nitrous oxide	water vapor	Global Warming	surface of the earth
cooler	clouds	absorbed	

On the back of this page, make a diagram showing one or more of the above statements.