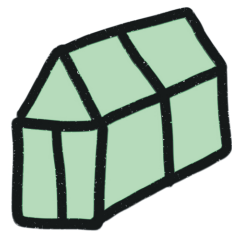


THE GREENHOUSE effect

written and illustrated by Kei, a senior in the Program in the Environment at the University of Michigan.



Have You ever beento a greenhouse?
Or passed by one?

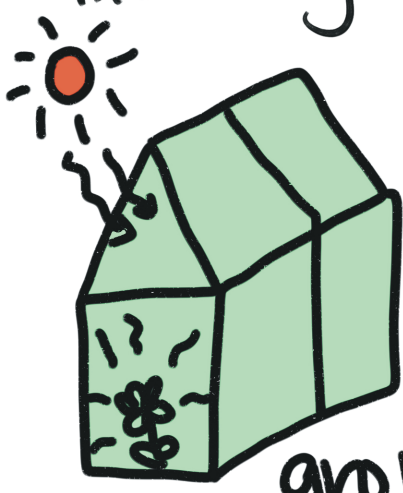


What is usually grown inside greenhouses?

Hint:



But why do we grow those things inside green houses and not outside?



ANSWER:

Greenhouses trap heat so that we can still grow plants in the winter.

That reminds me! Did you know that ...

our
PLANET
does the same thing
to keep us warm too,
and that
process is called
the Greenhouse
Effect!

Some common
greenhouse gases
(which cause the
greenhouse effect)
are:

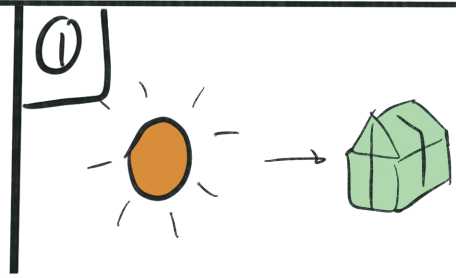
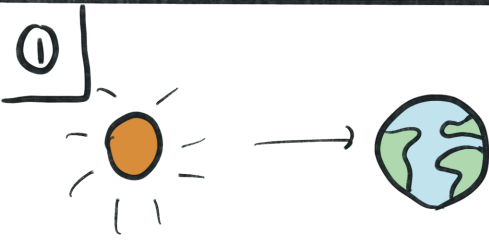


These gases act like the walls of an actual greenhouse — by letting heat in, but not out. Although too much of both gases are bad, so is too little.

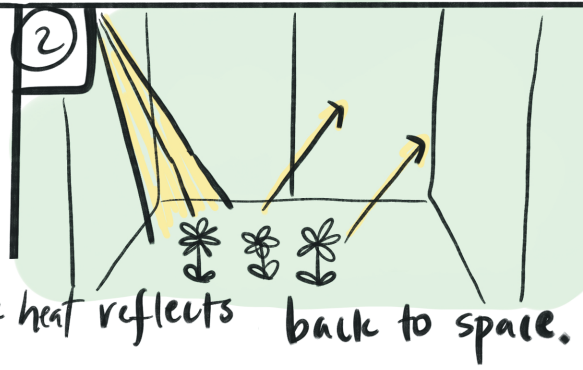
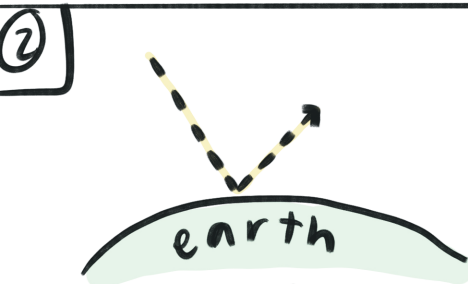
How does it work? See below!

↓ the PLANET ↓

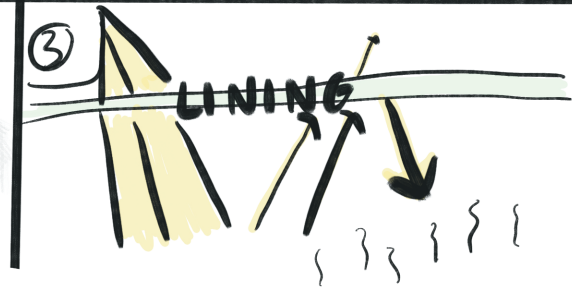
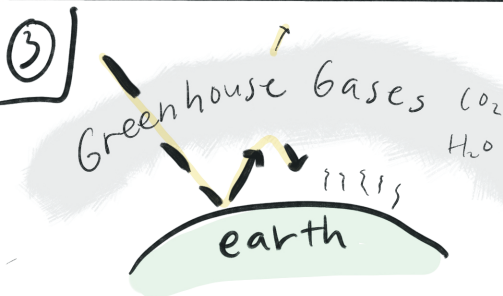
↓ actual Greenhouses ↓



Heat comes in from the sun.



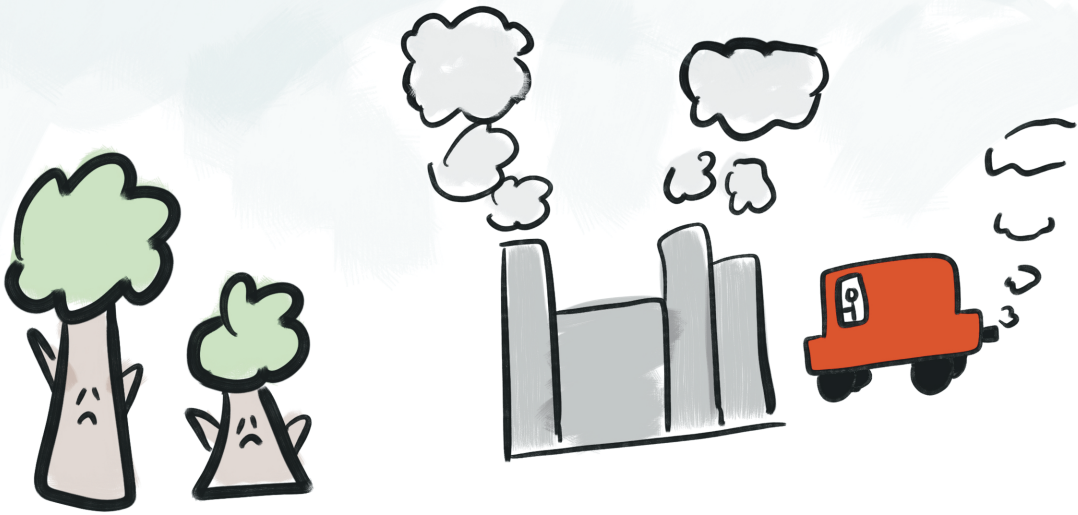
Once inside, some of the heat reflects back to space.



The greenhouse gases/lining prevents some heat from escaping, causing the inside to warm.

Without our greenhouse gases, the average temperature of the earth would be $0^{\circ}F$. Brr! **BUT!** →

Today, our atmosphere has too much of greenhouse gases, causing too much warming and contributing to the climate crisis.



This is because of humans releasing these gases faster than they can be absorbed naturally, such as carbon storage in trees.

HOWEVER,

there are efforts worldwide at every level to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. For example, the University of Michigan is halfway to its 2025 goal of reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. At home, you can try taking public transportation or riding a bike when you can, instead of driving a car!

