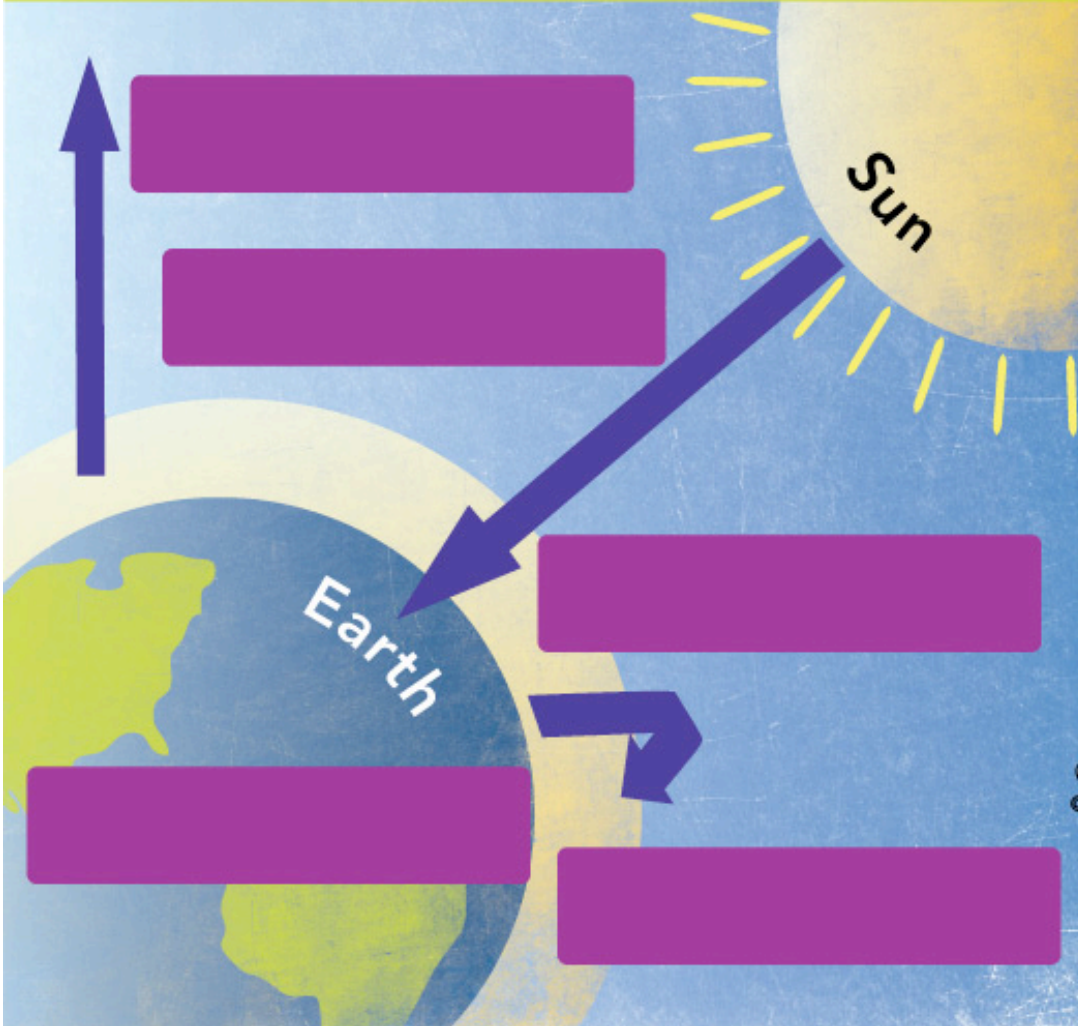


Handout 1.1 A: The Greenhouse Effect

The Greenhouse Effect

Adapted from the Greenhouse Effect Worksheet by CAPOD.



Cut out the labels below and stick them on the correct place on the greenhouse effect diagram.

Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), form a layer around the Earth.

Some heat energy escapes back into space. Without the greenhouse gases the average temperature of Earth would be -18°C, too cold for human habitation.

Heat energy from the Sun beams down onto the Earth. Some of it passes through the layer of gases in the atmosphere.

Some of the heat energy is absorbed by the greenhouse gases. The natural greenhouse effect ensures that the average temperature of Earth is warm enough to support all forms of life.

Human activities, such as the burning of fossil fuels, are creating excess greenhouse gas emissions. The higher concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere exaggerates the greenhouse effect, increasing the amount of heat energy that is absorbed, which leads to global warming and climate change.

