



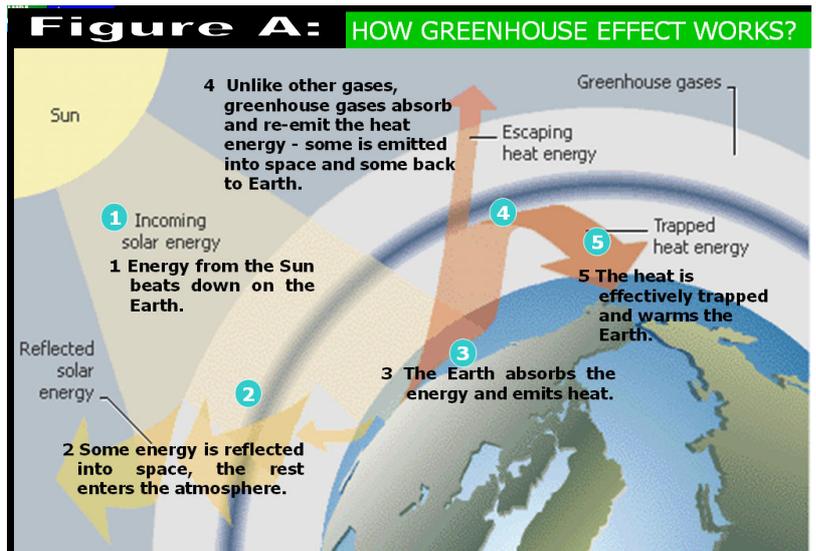
# A Glimpse on Global Warming Effects on Earth

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Television news, articles on magazines and newspapers, and other printed materials are discussing on current scenario on earth – the global warming. Most scientists believed that the global warming caused by the increased concentration of “greenhouse gases” (mostly composed of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide in the atmosphere), which actually regulated the temperature of the earth through the process called the “greenhouse effect.” According to [en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org), the greenhouse gases and green house effect are very vital to earth’s life because without them, the earth would be uninhabitable.

Larry O'Hanlon on his “Global Warming: A Primer” explains that greenhouse effect is essential for life on Earth – when it's not too vigorous. If not for the greenhouse effect, the temperature on the surface of Earth would be like that of the airless moon – swinging wildly from 225 degrees F (107 C) during the day to -243 degrees F (-153 C) at night. Not a good place for life. The Microsoft® Encarta Encyclopedia considered the greenhouse gases as the blanket that protects earth from much heat and cool. With the work of greenhouse effect, the greenhouse gases maintain the good temperature on earth. The earth can be very hot and very cold without the greenhouse gases since they can virtually protect earth from the direct sun’s heat and effectively trap the heat energy emitted by earth surface, which in return warms the earth, thereby regulating the earth’s temperature through the process known as greenhouse effect as shown in Figure A.



What is wrong now with the greenhouse gases and greenhouse effect? According to Microsoft® Encarta Encyclopedia, due to anthropogenic (human related activity) especially the industrial activity (e.g. burning of fossil fuels) and deforestation there was an increased concentration of green house gases in the atmosphere, which virtually blocked the emitted heat energy absorbed from the earth surface and can no longer escape to space. This trapped and considered as the excess heat energy will directly return to earth surface making earth with accelerated warm temperature – a phenomenon called global warming.

Why affected by global warming? The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warned that the world's poorer nations face spiraling rates of death and disease due to increased risk of droughts, floods, storms and other severe climate effects spurred by human-caused greenhouse gas emissions, said the [www.ecobridge.org](http://www.ecobridge.org). Among the obvious signs of global warming are the death due to climate change; increasing storms and flooding; killer heat waves; forest and wildfires increasing; the rapid retreat of glaciers in Greenland, Alaska, the Himalaya, the Antarctic Peninsula and on high tropical mountains; the thinning and disappearance of sea ice in the Arctic Ocean during summer; the melting of permafrost in Canada, Alaska and Siberia; disappearing lakes; and the rise of sea level. The [www.climatehotmap.org](http://www.climatehotmap.org) shows more comprehensive details on the impact of global warming of the earth. A presentation on Global Warming: A Glimpse also posted at [lmda.wordpress.com](http://lmda.wordpress.com).

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Is there possibility to reduce global warming? Yes, there are simple ways how to reduced global warming. The [www.christianitytoday.com](http://www.christianitytoday.com), [environmentalist.article-ok.com](http://environmentalist.article-ok.com), and IPCC suggested many possible ways. Nevertheless, here are three simplest methods to diminish global warming:



✓ Reducing, Reusing and Recycling. By recycling half of your household waste, you can save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide annually.

✓ Reduce energy needs. Tune up your vehicle to make it in good condition. Turn off unused computer and appliances. Buy and use energy-efficient products like compact fluorescent lights, refrigerator, etc.

✓ Plant more trees and participate to environmental related activities. We know that trees are important as an integral part of the natural atmospheric exchange cycle here on Earth fully counter the increases in carbon dioxide caused by automobile traffic, manufacturing, and other human activities. A single tree will absorb approximately one ton of carbon dioxide during its lifetime.



Let us help save our mother earth. Let us reduce global warming! Start NOW! ❖