

The following is a note made by a group of students a few years ago. I did not type this, I only merged the e-mails that they sent to me.

Re-Directing Water Flow

- moving rock and soil is called erosion, wind and water cause erosions, the soil can be washed away by erosion
- animals are forced to flee, or could be killed
- when animals leave, they move to new eco-system where resources may not be as plenty
- hills and farmland are bulldozed
- machines destroy plants in area
- soil washes into reservoir, making it muddy and harder for organisms in the reservoir to survive
- down wind dams that are large in size, could receive more rain, snow, etc., this happens because there is larger accumulation of water to evaporate, condense and fall

The Carbon Cycle

- carbon is necessary for all life to exist
- fossil fuels burn and release carbon dioxide into the air
- people have released large amounts of carbon dioxide by the wide-spread burning of tropical rainforests for farming
- destruction of rainforests also reduces the number of photosynthesizing organisms, making the cycle more unbalanced
- people are burning too many fossil fuels
- as long as there is not more carbon dioxide than plants use, the carbon cycle works well and the system stays in balance.

Fossil Fuels

- long ago plankton in the seas trapped energy from the sunlight
- the plankton die and sink to the sea bed

- the plankton are trapped by layers of mud and silt, which put pressure turning them to ooze
- in time the substances in the ooze are changed to natural gas and petroleum oils
- fossil fuels are products from these oils

Greenhouse Gases

- the atmosphere surrounding the earth allows sunlight to pass through to the earth's surface
- global warming is a gradual warming of the earth's atmosphere
- since the atmosphere acts like the glass of the greenhouse it allows life on earth because warm air is trapped inside the atmosphere
- greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, which result from the burning of fossil fuels, are building up in the atmosphere
- since the atmosphere keeps the warm air trapped in the earth with pollution it is a big contribution of global warming
- basically, earth is a large greenhouse because it absorbs light, contains warm air and provides organisms with their requirements to live