

Ways You Can Help

- Use energy-efficient light bulbs in your house.
- Recycle paper when you are done with it and read newspapers and magazines online.
- Take showers instead of baths.
- Wash your clothes in cold water instead of warm.
- If you can, walk instead of riding in a car.
- Buy things that will last you a while so you don't have to buy new things very often.
- Plug electronics that have a standby mode into a power strip.



List of sources:

Understanding Global Warming

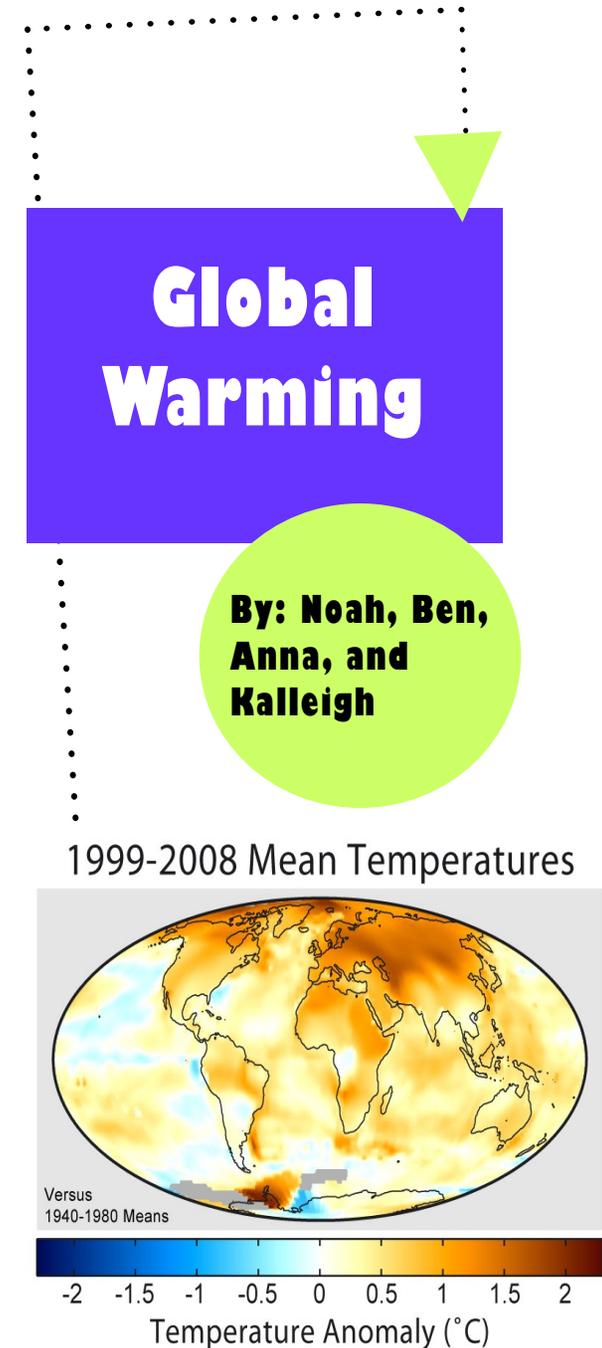
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Global Warming

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Global Warming

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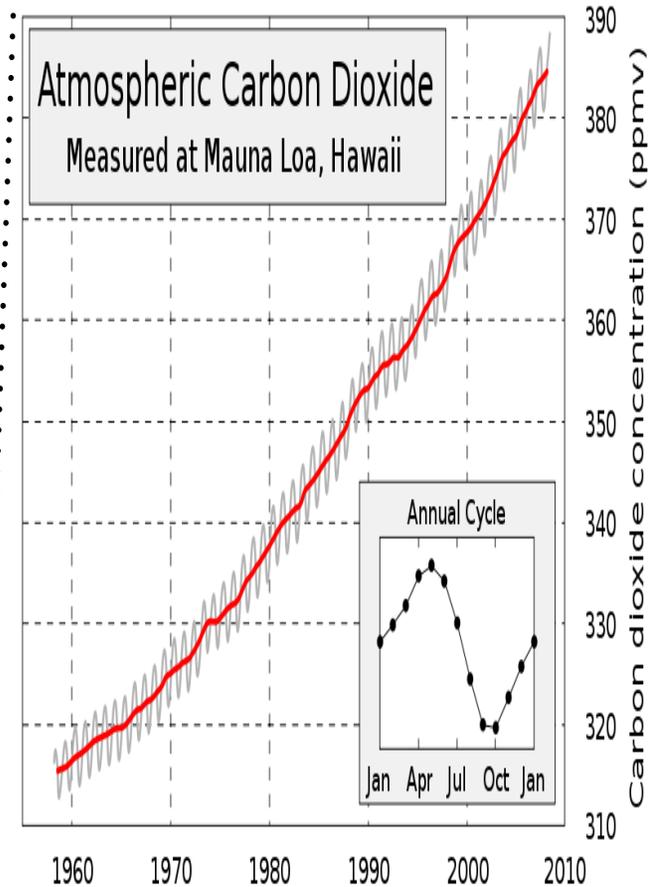
Global warming is the rising of Earth's average surface temperature overtime. It mostly started in the mid-1800s and has continued to become an increasing problem. Global warming is caused when too many greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone pollute the atmosphere. They act as a shield around Earth, not allowing very much heat to escape. Burning coal, natural gas, and petroleum create the greenhouse gases and cause global warming. Chemicals called chlorofluorocarbons, which used to be used in the cooling systems of refrigerators and air conditioners and were also used to make aerosol spray bottles and plastic foam contributed a lot of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. Earth's average surface temperature has risen 1.4 degrees in the last 150 years.

Dangers

Global warming has caused many heat waves and heat related deaths. The warmer temperatures are disrupting ecosystems and even causing species to become endangered or extinct. Global warming is also raising temperatures in the oceans and killing coral reefs. Some people believe global warming is not as bad as scientists say it is. Other people question if we can slow or stop global warming.

Debates

The first debate about global warming was if it was even happening, but now it is clear that the Earth is getting warmer. The next debate was if humans were responsible. There is still some debate on that topic, but there is proof that we are at least mostly responsible.



This is the Keeling Curve. It shows the levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere since 1958.