

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: When the Thermometer Keeps Growing: 3rd Grade Climate Quiz

Evaluate student understanding of the greenhouse effect and identifying simple ways to help our planet through this formative assessment.

1. The Earth is wrapped in a layer of gases that keep us warm, just like a fuzzy _____.

Answer: B) Blanket

Greenhouse gases act like a blanket, trapping heat from the sun to keep the Earth at a comfortable temperature.

2. True or False: Weather and climate are exactly the same thing.

Answer: B) False

Weather changes day to day, while climate describes the pattern of weather over a very long time.

3. When we turn off the _____ when leaving a room, we help use less energy.

Answer: C) Lights

Saving electricity reduces the need to burn fuels that create greenhouse gases.

4. Which of these is a way that a warmer planet might change the ocean?

Answer: B) It can cause sea levels to rise

As the planet warms, ice melts and flows into the ocean, and warmer water takes up more space, causing sea levels to rise.

5. True or False: Planting new trees is a good way to help clean the air.

Answer: A) True

Trees breathe in carbon dioxide, which helps reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere.

6. Instead of riding in a car, walking or riding a _____ is a great way to protect the Earth.

Answer: A) Bicycle

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Bicycles don't use fuel or release smoke, making them a very 'green' way to travel.

7. What happens to the temperature of the Earth during global warming?

Answer: C) It slowly goes up

Global warming means the average temperature of the whole world is increasing over time.

8. Using a reusable water bottle is an example of the 'three Rs': Reduce, Reuse, and _____.

Answer: C) Recycle

Reducing, reusing, and recycling are three key steps to taking care of our environment.

9. True or False: Only scientists can do things to help the climate.

Answer: B) False

Everyone, including students, can help by saving energy and recycling.

10. Why is the sea ice important for polar bears?

Answer: A) They use it as a place to hunt and rest

Polar bears depend on the ice as a platform for traveling and finding food.