

The Greenhouse Effect Game

... as developed by the pupils of the 1st Experimental Primary School of Thessaloniki

Preparation: Name tags for the Earth, the CO₂ molecules (5–8), the sun rays (twice as high as CO₂ molecules) and the infrared rays (same as the sun rays)

Draw a circle with a diameter of 8 steps and then draw another circle with a different chalk color at a greater distance (diameter about 16 steps)

Characters: the Earth, CO₂ molecules, the sun rays who will become infrared rays

Story:

Before the industrial revolution, in the Earth's atmosphere of the Earth, there is a small amount of CO₂. It comes mainly from volcanic eruptions and fires. The plants absorbed it to live, and what was left in the atmosphere kept the infrared radiation close to the Earth's surface. So the Earth was warm enough to support life. Otherwise we would freeze.

The years have passed, we have reached the industrial revolution around 1780. The man discovered the use of coal to produce energy for the machines. And as the charcoal is burning, the CO₂ grows ...

We are in 1900. We discovered something more precious than coal ... oil, black gold! We used oil to work the factories, to move ships and trains, to build cars and planes. People began to cut forests to build their homes and to cultivate the land. And as the oil is burning, the CO₂ grows ...

We arrive to today. We use more energy than ever! Every family has one or more cars, we travel with airplanes more and more often, and of course, we use fossil fuels ... coal, oil, gas. And we consume too much, too many things, too much food, much more meat than it is good for us. Scientists warn: CO₂ has grown a lot and will grow more and more if we do not take action! We move to self-destruction ...