

Global Warming Comparison Activity:

Mod 64. The Consequences of Global Climate Change

State the range of temperature change which could cause real damage to ecosystems. Explain why a range so seemingly small can have such major consequences. Summarize the projections of possible effects of global warming on (a) food production, (b) water supplies, (c) forests, (d) biodiversity, (e) sea levels, (f) weather extremes, (g) human health, and (h) environmental refugees.

Explain how each of the following factors might enhance or dampen global warming:

ACTIVITY	ENHANCE	DAMPEN
<p>Ability of oceans to store CO₂ and heat</p>		
<p>Changes in cloud cover</p>		
<p>Air Pollution</p>		
<p>Effects of increased CO₂ levels on photosynthesis</p>		
<p>Increased methane emissions</p>		

Explain how atmospheric warming might affect (harm vs. benefits) each of the following:

ACTIVITY	HARM	BENEFITS
Glaciers, sea ice, and polar ice caps		
Sea levels and coastal areas		
Ocean currents and ocean water temperatures		
Precipitation and weather		
Biodiversity		
Agriculture and fish stocks		
People		