

Experiment 2: The greenhouse effect.

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, more and more CO2 has been emitted (industry, heating, transport, ...). Those emissions have consequences on the climate.

2. ORIENTATION

How does carbon dioxide affect the earht's temperature?

3. PREPARATION

3.1. Materials:

- 2 glass containers with lids
- > 2 thermometers (accuracy 0.1 °C)
- > 1 lamp with incandescent bulb (more than 100 W)
- Bicarbonate
- Water
- vinegar

3.2. Method:

- place a thermometer next to each glass.
- put water in the first and bicarbonate and vinegar in the second and place them under a bowl.
- The second atmosphere must be enclosed as quickly as possible in order to contain the CO2 produced by the reaction.
- Then place the lamp, i.e. our Sun, over the two bowls in order to heat them up.
- After a few minutes, read the value indicated by the thermometers and find a reason for what happened.

4. RESULTS

Observations:

Two systems are created for comparison: one that reproduces the current condition of the atmosphere, consisting of 'normal' air, and one that hypothesises the state of the future atmosphere with increased levels of CO2. How does the temperature change in each of them?

The temperature in the system with more CO2 has risen

More than in the system without CO₂.

5. REFLECTION

Can you make the connection between this experiment and the effect of greenhouse gases on the atmosphere?

6. e-book

Take several pictures during the experiment. You can also film it. Greenhouse gases further enhance the effect of global warming.