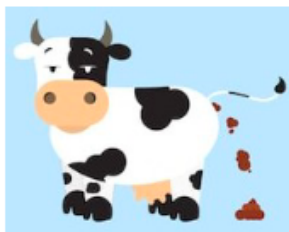




Knowledge

Pollution can occur naturally e.g. volcanic eruption or as a result of human activities e.g. spilling of oil.

<b>Soil/Land</b>	Household rubbish and <b>industrial waste</b> from factories cause land pollution. Discarded food takes up the largest area in <b>landfills</b> .
<b>Water</b>	Dangerous substances like chemicals, <b>pesticides and fertilizers</b> enter streams, rivers or seas. Oil spills are one of the biggest causes of water pollution. Water pollution can severely affect marine life.
<b>Air</b>	Human activity is a major cause of air pollution, from factories, power plants, cars, airplanes, chemicals, fumes from spray cans, and methane gas from landfills where rubbish is buried. Not only does air pollution cause <b>smog</b> , it also causes sickness such as asthma and other respiratory diseases.

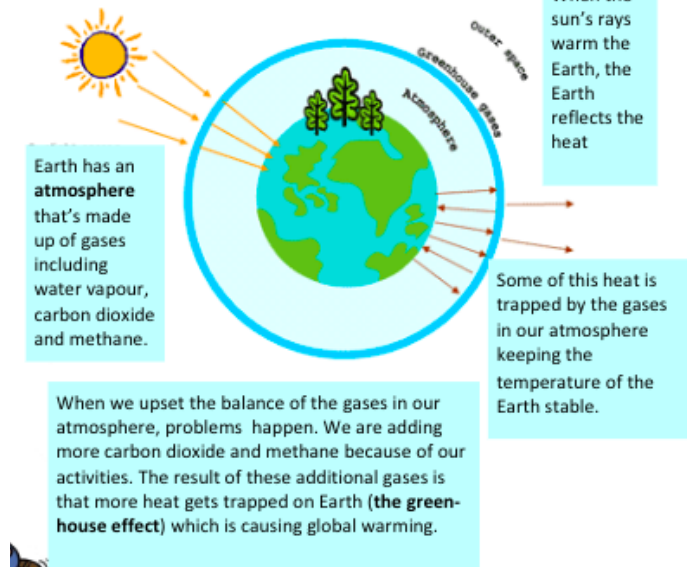


Cows also produce lots of the gas called **methane** from their wind and manure.



Why is the temperature of Earth increasing?

Vehicles and planes use **fossil fuels** to power their engines. The smoke that comes out of a car contains a gas called **carbon dioxide**. Due to the large number of vehicles in the world today, we are adding too much carbon dioxide to our atmosphere, causing Earth's temperature to rise. This is known as global warming and is caused by the greenhouse effect.



When we upset the balance of the gases in our atmosphere, problems happen. We are adding more carbon dioxide and methane because of our activities. The result of these additional gases is that more heat gets trapped on Earth (**the greenhouse effect**) which is causing global warming.

**Pollution** - introduction into the environment of substances which have a harmful effect.

**Industrial waste** - waste produced by factories and industries.

**Landfill** - disposal of waste material by burying it.

**Pesticide** - chemical used to kill harmful animals or plants.

**Contaminate** - make something unfit for use by adding something harmful.

**Fossil fuel** - fuels that come from very old life forms e.g. coal, oil.

**Conserve** - to protect or look after something.

**Smog** - mixture of smoke and fog caused by air pollution.