

What Is Hotter Than Hot?

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Imagine staying in your room with all the windows closed. Imagine doing this on a really hot summer day. What would happen? All the heat would be trapped in your room. Your room would become hotter and hotter. Now imagine that happening to the whole planet.

I'm sure that you have heard the words "**global warming**." Do you really know what it is? Global warming is the increase in the average temperature of the earth's atmosphere. This simply means that the temperature of the earth goes up a little every year. When this happens, the weather changes, ice at the poles and glaciers melts, and animals have to move to find food and homes because their habitats change. But what causes the planet to warm?

Well, when we burn fuels such as coal and oil, we produce gases such as **carbon dioxide**, which go up into the atmosphere. These gases prevent heat from leaving the atmosphere, just like that closed window in your room prevents the heat from escaping. In this case it makes the earth hot, just like staying in your room in summer with all the windows closed. So what's hotter than hot? Global warming!

