

Your Carbon Footprint

Vocabulary:

carbon dioxide: A greenhouse gas that comes from burning fossil fuels.

carbon footprint: The amount of greenhouse gas emissions caused by a person or group.

climate: The long-term weather events of a region, such as its average rainfall or its average high/low temperatures.

emission: Gases released into the atmosphere.

greenhouse gas: Gases that trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere: carbon dioxide, methane, water vapor, ozone, and nitrous oxide.

life cycle assessment: A consideration of all effects of an activity, including producing and transporting goods, not just the effects directly associated with an activity, such as emissions from a car tailpipe.

methane: A very strong greenhouse gas; a component of natural gas.

nitrous oxide: A very strong greenhouse gas; also causes other air pollution and regulates ozone.

ozone: A greenhouse gas that also protects humans from UV rays.

water vapor: The tiny droplets of water in the air caused by evaporation; can act as a greenhouse gas.

Writing Topic:

What are some ways to reduce your carbon footprint?

Specific Standards:

SS.H.1.3: Create and use a chronological sequence of events

SS.H.2.3: Describe how significant people, events, and developments have shaped their own community and region