

AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO CLIMATE POLLUTION

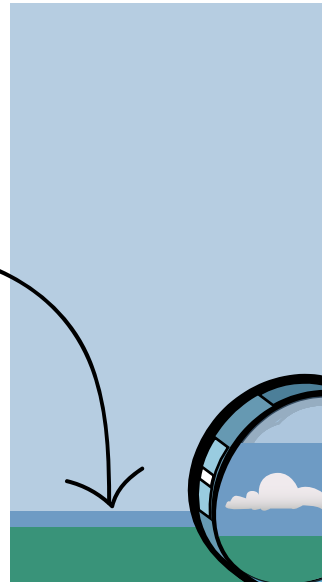
in six simple steps

MOMS *clean air* **FORCE** with Ilissa Ocko



1 An endless sky? Think again.

The atmosphere is surprisingly thin. "Space" begins about 300 miles from Earth's surface, which is where the blue coating around the Earth in this picture ends.



The lowest five to ten miles of the atmosphere is where weather forms and planes fly.

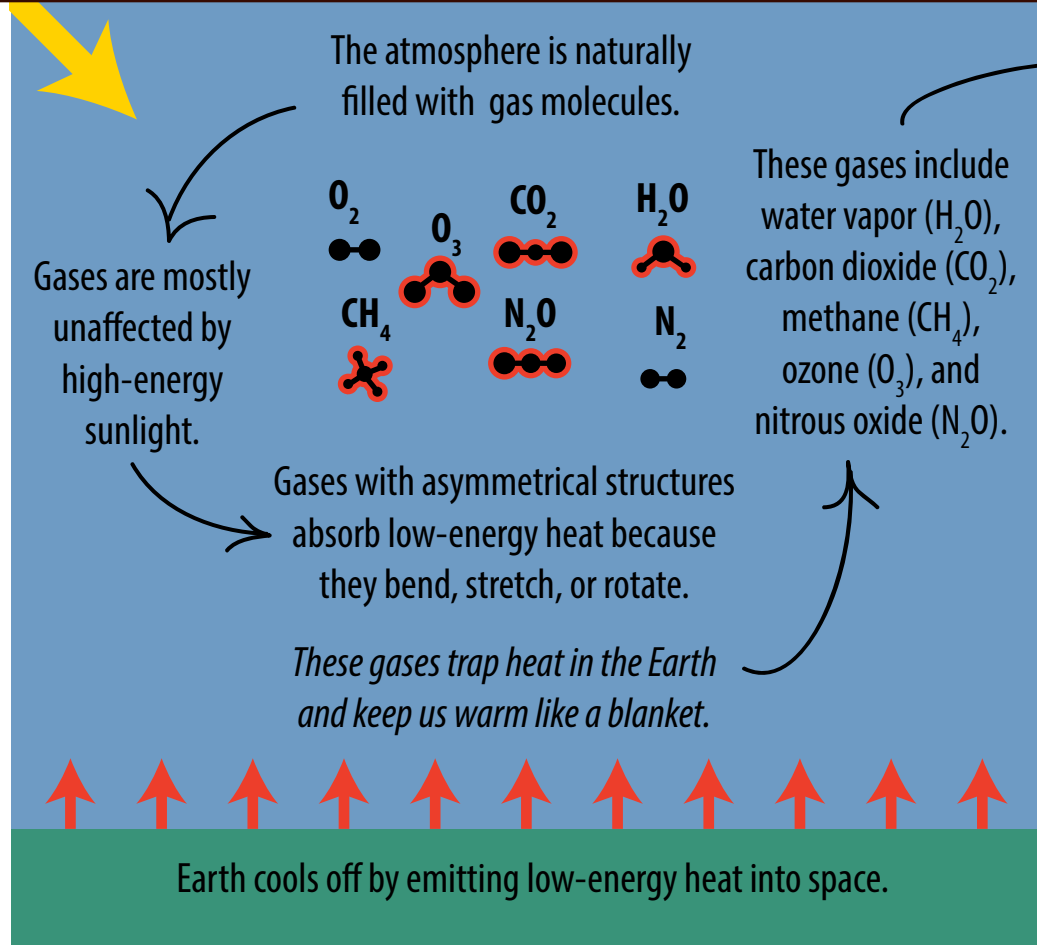


A person could run to the top of this 'weather' layer and back (20 miles at most) in less time than it takes to run a marathon (26.2 miles).



If our planet was an apple, this 'weather' layer would be one-third the thickness of the apple skin.

2 The atmosphere is Earth's blanket.



Without these gases, Earth would be 60°F cooler—frozen and uninhabitable.



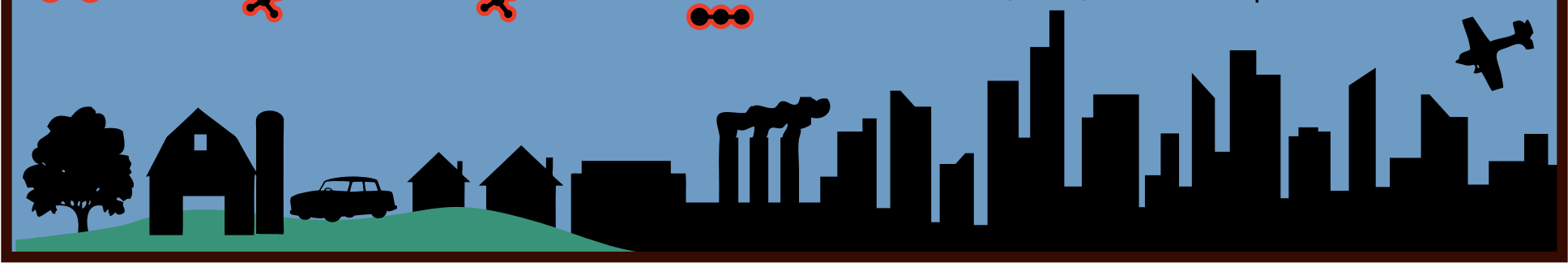
3

So what's the problem? Too much of a good thing.

Human activities—such as burning coal for electricity—are increasing the amount of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere, thickening the Earth's blanket.

Some gases, such as CO_2 , can remain in the atmosphere for over a thousand years.

CO_2 , CH_4 , and N_2O concentrations have increased by about 40%, 150%, and 20% since preindustrial times.



4 Unnatural warming is changing the climate with consequences

UNNATURAL OVERDOSE OF GREENHOUSE EFFECT

Human activities are emitting large amounts of heat-trapping gases into the atmosphere.

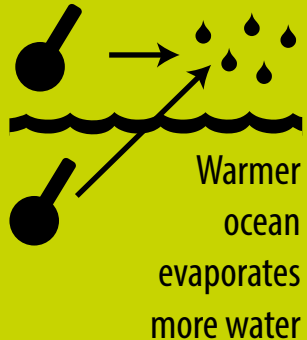
Some gases, such as methane, break down to create even more greenhouse gases.



WARMING PLANET AND MOIST ATMOSPHERE

Extra heat warms air and ocean

Warmer air holds more moisture



CHANGING CLIMATE CONDITIONS



Snow and ice melting



Sea level rising



Hot days increasing



Flooding intensifying

HUMAN SOCIETY AND NATURAL WORLD IMPACTS



Death, illness from extremes, insects, air quality



Water resources in jeopardy



Powerful, damaging storms



Extremes, insects threaten crops and livestock



Intense, long droughts



Old infrastructure can be damaged by extreme weather

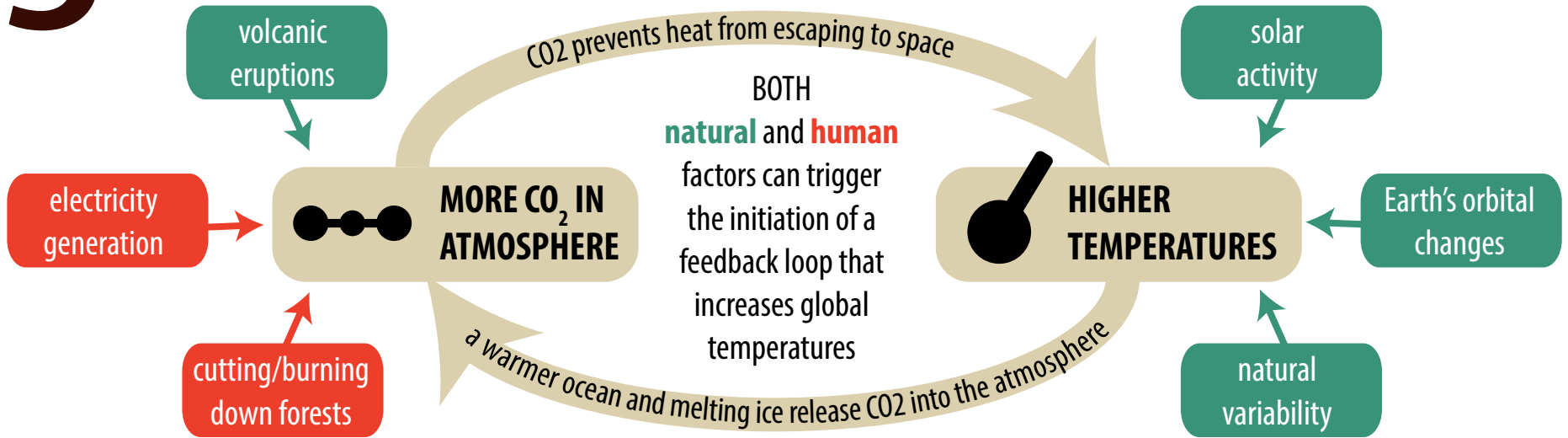


Dryness fuels wildfires

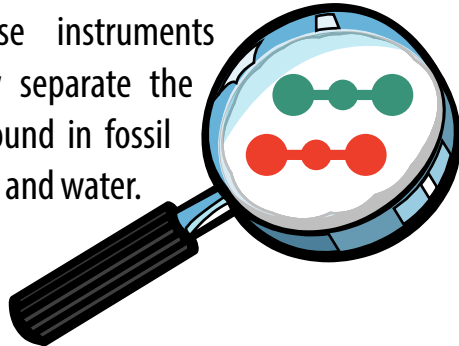


Animals threatened by heat and water scarcity

5 But hasn't the climate changed in the past, before humans?

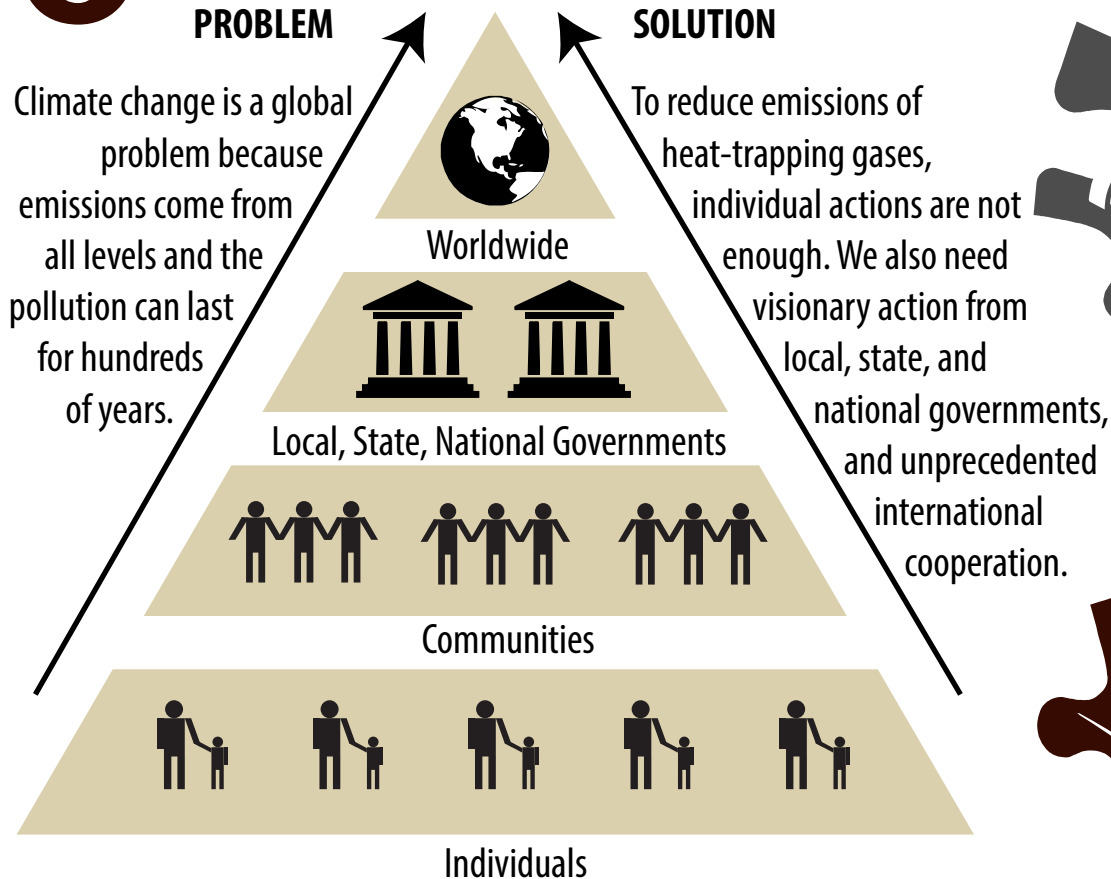


Scientists use instruments that chemically separate the kinds of carbon found in fossil fuels from those in air and water.

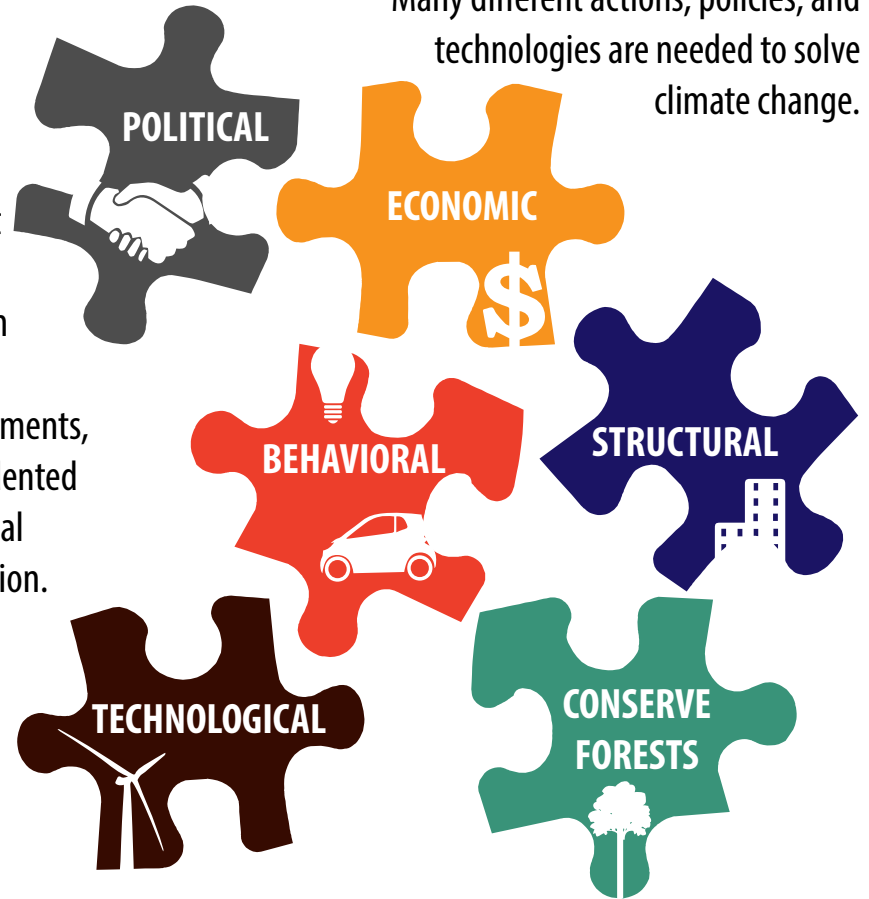


Scientists can therefore detect that the increasing CO₂ today is from **human** sources.

6 This means we can do something about it!



Many different actions, policies, and technologies are needed to solve climate change.



Moms Clean Air Force is a community of moms and dads united against air pollution
– including the urgent crisis of our changing climate –
to protect our children's health.

We arm members with reliable information and solutions through
online resources, articles, action tools, and on-the-ground events.

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