



Seeds

Title	A BIG GREENHOUSE CALLED EARTH
Description	<p>With his activities man has heavily contributed to the increased concentration of greenhouse gas in the atmosphere. The greenhouse effect is a natural phenomenon that guarantees the optimum temperature of the Earth surface for our life; now, this natural effect has been forced to extremes, thus causing global warming with all the serious consequences unfortunately nowadays under everybody's eyes.</p> <p>A very simple test will enable us to actually "see" the greenhouse effect and, through the experiment, observe its effects.</p>
Materials and Time needed	<p>The kit will supply: a little wooden box, a glass lid, a thermometer probe</p> <p>Materials for the test: a powerful reading lamp or a floodlit area, warmed up by the sun in a nice day</p> <p>Time needed: at least 1 hour</p>
Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Insert the thermometer probe into the special hole in the wooden box, propping it up on a supportive framework so as to keep it almost parallel to the bottom of the box• Switch the thermometer on. Record the initial temperature inside the little box• Put the box and the thermometer in the sunlit area, making sure the inside of the box is hit directly by the sun rays or, alternatively, put it under a powerful reading lamp (as near as 10-15 cm to the probe)• Record the varying temperatures every 10 minutes for at least half an hour• Put both box and thermometer back into the shade and let it cool down for about 5 minutes.• Repeat the whole test from the beginning, but putting the glass lid on top of the box• It is optional to have also all the cooling temperatures recorded. <p>Temperatures measured inside the box with the glass lid will rise more quickly and reach higher values. Even the cooling will take longer.</p>
In-depth study	<p>The issue of Global Warming due to the Greenhouse Effect can be approached from different points of view. A few examples:</p> <p>Gather information on all international treaties and agreements that have been stipulated since the Kyoto Protocol (1997), with the purpose of reducing carbon dioxide emissions: signatory powers, objectives and adopted measures.</p> <p>The influence of Global Warming on agricultural production.</p>

In-depth study of the latest IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)
Report:

<http://www.ipcc.ch/>