

A Global Warning?

Video Questions

Answer the following questions as you watch the video.

1. Have we ever had this much CO_2 in the atmosphere before?
2. 250 million years ago there was a massive global warming. How did that affect the number of species of organisms on earth?
3. Why is Death Valley a good place for scientists to look for previous cooling?
4. Why do scientists refer to a previous time of earth as "snowball earth"?
5. When the earth gets whiter, what affect does that have on the temperature? Does that mean it has a high or low albedo?
6. What temperature was the dark colored card?
7. Why would people not be able to survive if we had another snowball earth?
8. In South Africa a scientist looks at layers of rock on a hill. What do the different layers of rock tell him about how the climate changed (the layers are two different colors).
9. How did the "flood basalt" (volcanic eruptions) on one part of the world lead to 95% of the species around the world become extinct?
10. How much CO_2 did it take to wipe out those species?
11. Doubling CO_2 will raise the earth's temperature by how many degrees Celsius?
12. What is the significance of methane bubbles being released off of the Santa Barbra coast?
13. What is the relationship between the harmfulness of CO_2 vs CH_4 (methane)?
14. Why does Helmly use coral to help look at the climate change over the past 200 years?

15. Why are scientists concerned about the fact that methane is flammable?
16. How could the fact that the earth travels in an elliptical orbit affect the earth's changing climate?
17. Based on the theory from #16, should we be heating up or cooling down right now? Is that what's happening?
18. How fast is the ice melting?
19. How would coastal cities be affected by melting ice caps?
20. The last mass extinction occurred how quickly?
21. There are many theories as to why this occurred so quickly. Give one theory.
22. When did the "little ice age" occur?
23. What is the significance of sun spots in relation to the "little ice age"?
24. How might sun spots help us now?
25. What part of the US is the most volcanically active area (known as a supervolcano)?
26. What would be the results of this eruption? How far "past due" is this eruption?
27. What greenhouse gas is located under the permafrost in Alaska?
28. How much have global temperatures increased since the 1970's? What are the problems associated with this?
29. What are things that the video pointed out that humans are doing to increase the amount of greenhouse gases?
30. What is the problem with the ocean's waters increasing?
31. What do scientists believe will be the biggest problem with a big global climatic change?