

The Greenhouse Effect

Some solar radiation is reflected by the Earth and the atmosphere.

Some of the infrared radiation passes through the atmosphere. Some is absorbed and re-emitted in all directions by greenhouse gas molecules. The effect of this is to warm the Earth's surface and the lower atmosphere.

Most radiation is absorbed by the Earth's surface and warms it.

Infrared radiation is emitted by the Earth's surface.

Atmosphere

Earth's surface

