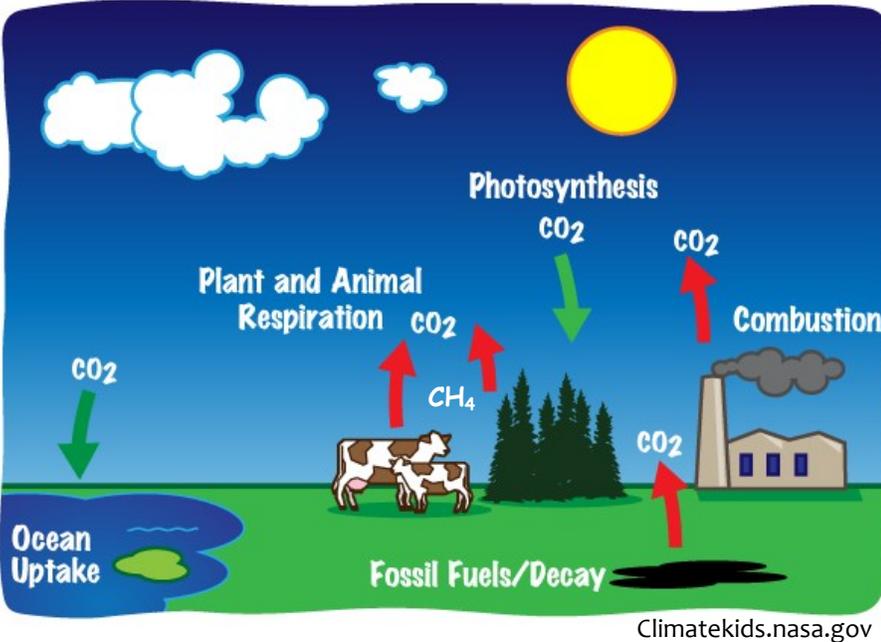




Biofuels and the Carbon Cycle

Carbon Cycle Basics



The carbon cycle is the process by which molecules with carbon are added to the atmosphere and then removed by the natural processes of the earth.

Oceans and rivers absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Plants absorb carbon dioxide during photosynthesis, use it to build the plants, then expire oxygen.

Animals use the oxygen from the plants, then expire carbon dioxide.

Burning fossil fuels in cars and factories also releases carbon back into the atmosphere.

Biofuels Basics

Biofuels are fuels made from organic matter — like plants.

Burning organic matter, or biomass, can produce energy.

The biofuels process **recycles** carbon.

Burning biomass does not add any **new** carbon to the atmosphere. It releases the carbon that was already absorbed by plants used to make the biofuels back into the atmosphere and then it is used again by new plants.



Find out more at
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 301-644-1395
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Biofuels Word Find

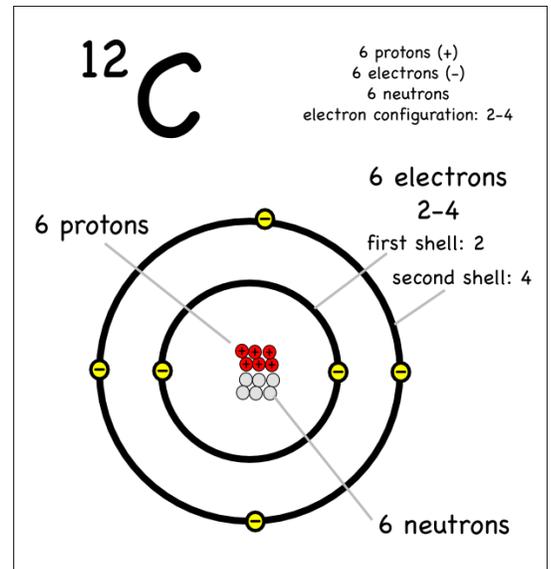
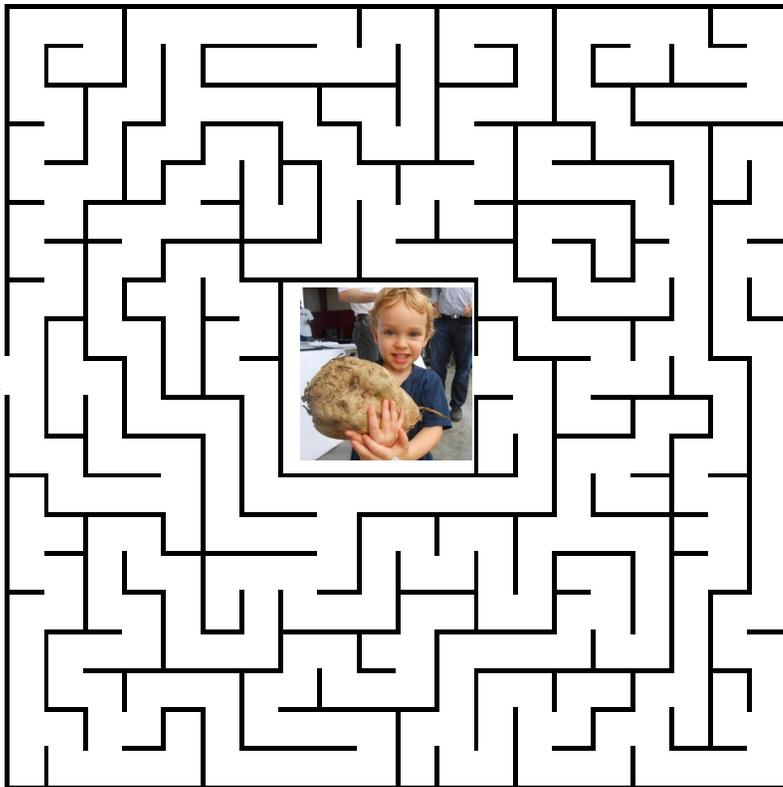
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ABSORPTION
 ATMOSPHERE
 BIOFUELS
 BIOMASS
 CARBONCYCLE
 CELLULOSE
 COMBUSTION
 FOSSILFUELS
 OXYGEN
 PHOTOSYNTHESIS
 RECYCLE



Things to Know About Carbon Atoms

Find the Energy Beet



Facts About Carbon

- *Carbon makes up only about 0.04% of the atmosphere.
- *Carbon is a key ingredient to life; it makes up 20% of the weight of living organisms.
- *Carbon can form more compounds than any other element!
- *Carbon has the highest melting point of all elements: 6332°F!