

Energy

- **Energy** is needed to make things happen
- It is measured in **joules** or **kilojoules**
- The **law of conservation of energy** says that energy cannot be created or destroyed, only transferred
- This means that the total energy before a change is always equal to the total energy after a change

Energy can be in different energy **stores**, including:

- **Chemical** – to do with food, fuels and batteries
- **Thermal** – to do with hot objects
- **Kinetic** – to do with moving objects
- **Gravitational potential** – to do with the position in a gravitational field
- **Elastic potential** – to do with changing shape, squashing and stretching

Food and energy

- Food has energy in a chemical energy store
- Different foods contain different amounts of energy
- Different activities require different amounts of energy
- Different people need different amounts of energy depending on what they do each day

Non-renewable energy

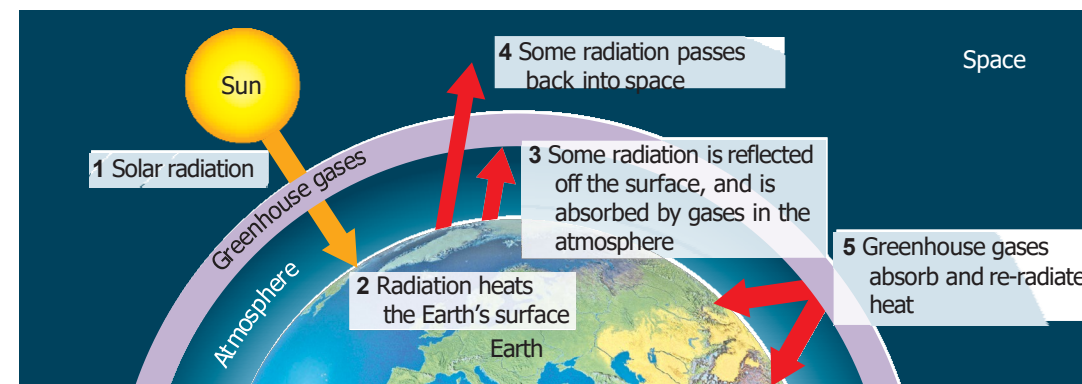
- **Non-renewable** energy cannot be replaced within your lifetime
- Non-renewable **energy resources** include coal, oil, natural gas and nuclear resources
- Coal, oil and natural gas are also known as **fossil fuels**, they release carbon dioxide when burned which contributes to global warming

Renewable energy

- **Renewable** energy can be replaced within your lifetime
- Renewable energy resources include wind, tidal, wave, biomass, solar, hydroelectric and geothermal
- Renewable energy resources do not produce much carbon dioxide, meaning that they have a smaller effect on global warming

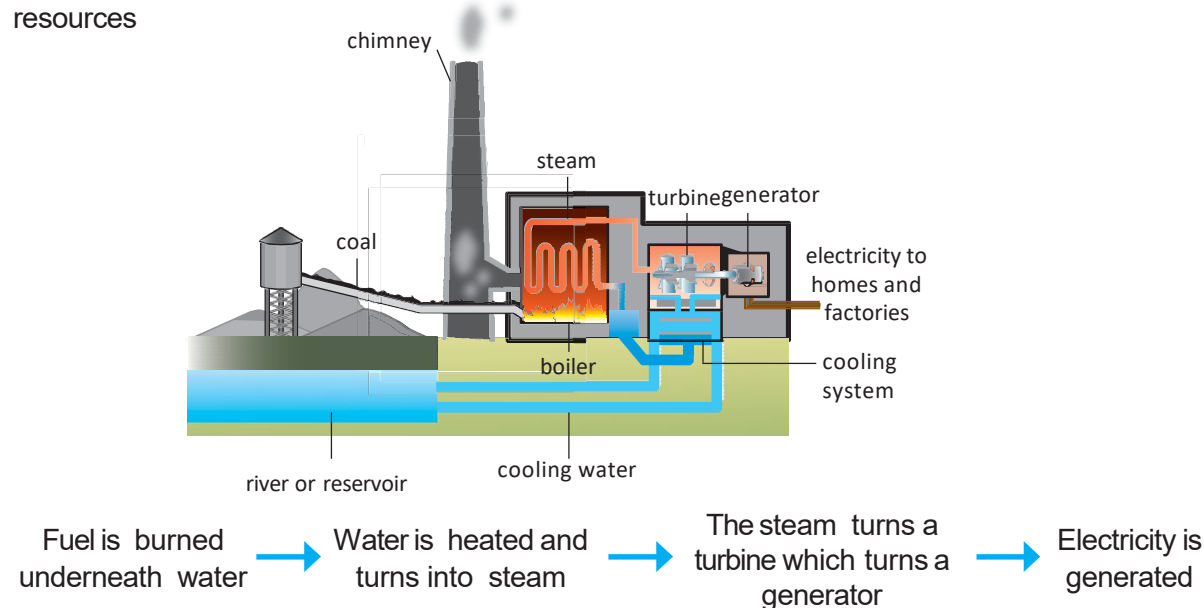
Global warming

- **Global warming** is the gradual increase in temperature of the Earth
- This is closely linked to the rise in carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere
- When the Sun heats the Earth's surface, some of the radiation is absorbed and some is reflected back into space
- Some of the gases in the atmosphere absorb radiation that is about to be reflected into space, this keeps the Earth at a warmer temperature than it would be without the atmosphere, this is needed as otherwise it would be too cold for life
- The gases in the atmosphere which absorb and trap this radiation are known as **greenhouse gases**, the most commonly known greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide and methane



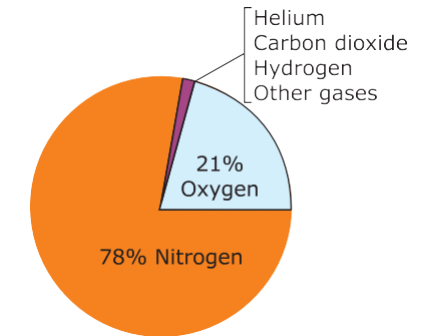
Power stations

Thermal power stations burn coal, oil and natural gas, which are all non-renewable energy resources



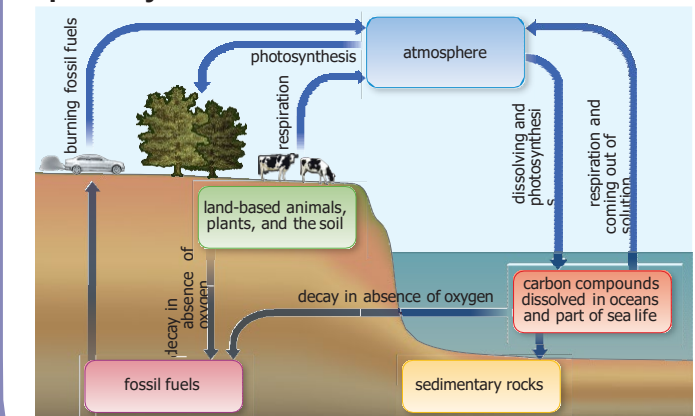
The Earth's Atmosphere

- The air around us all of the time is known as the **atmosphere**, it is made up of a mixture of gases.



The carbon cycle

- The **carbon cycle** is the processes by which carbon is naturally transferred to different stores through a range of natural processes
- Carbon is released into the atmosphere through **combustion** of **fossil fuels**, and animal **respiration**
- It is then reabsorbed by plants during **photosynthesis**



Climate change

- Long term changes to weather patterns are known as **climate change**
- This can cause the ice caps to melt, leading to sea levels rising and flooding of low level land
- Graphs alone cannot confirm that humans are the cause, but the majority of scientists now believe that human activity is a very likely cause
- We can help to prevent climate change by:
 - Using renewable energy resources
 - Using cars less
 - Buying and wasting less resources