

Name _____

Can Too Much Carbon Dioxide in the Air Be Harmful?

Short Answer Key

1. Excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere traps more heat, leading to global warming, changes in weather patterns, and more severe weather events.
2. Excess CO₂ causes ocean acidification, which harms coral reefs and shellfish by making seawater more acidic and affecting their ability to build shells and skeletons.
3. High levels of indoor CO₂ can lead to health issues because it can cause symptoms such as dizziness, headaches, shortness of breath, and impaired cognitive function when breathed in by people.
4. The initial stimulation of plant growth with increased CO₂ diminishes over time because other factors like water and nutrient availability become limiting, and the plants' response to higher CO₂ levels decreases.
5. Efforts to reduce carbon dioxide emissions include transitioning to renewable energy sources, implementing carbon capture technologies, and promoting reforestation and afforestation projects.

