

Discovering Science: Atmospheric Chemistry

Lesson plan

Starter activity	Learning objectives
Students brainstorm and list everything they know about:	To define key terms in atmospheric chemistry.
 global warming stratosphere greenhouse gases 	• To explain the role that greenhouse gases play in atmospheric chemistry.
the ozone layer.	• To explore how chemistry may be able to address issues of global warming.
Main activities	Resources required
The class watches the video in Step 1.3 (The role	1. Device for watching video.
of chemistry in climate change) and students take	2. Exercise from Step 1.4.
notes. Ask questions to check understanding,	3. Devices to conduct research.
including:	4. Materials to collect ideas and
• What is the role of the hydroxyl	answers.
radical?	Assessment for Learning
What is ozone?	Discussion contributions exercise answers and
	feedback.
Put students into small groups, and hand out the	
exercise from Step 1.4 (Radiation and greenhouse	Differentiation
gases exercise). In their groups, students use the	SEND: Videos have subtitles, teacher support.
internet to research and answer the exercise	Low ability: Peer-learning.
the exercise, and ask groups to self-assess their	Gifted and Talented: Peer-teaching.
answers.	Plenary
Still in their groups, ask students to discuss the	Share and discuss the group answers to the
following question and note down their answers. They can conduct more research if they wish.	question as a class. Collect a list of thoughts and ideas on the board.
 Do you think chemistry will be able to solve the problem of global warming? If so, how? 	