**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Carbon Cycle – Brain Pop**

1. Carbon is the **fourth**-most common element in the universe.
2. **Carbon** is the building block for all life on Earth – every single cell in every **living** thing contains some carbon.
3. Carbon is common in **non-living** matter, too: in rocks and soil; dissolved in **seawater**; inside the earth’s mantle; and in the **air**, as carbon dioxide.
4. Earth’s carbon is constantly **flowing** from one of these forms to another; that’s the **carbon cycle**.
5. The Carbon Cycle is like the **water cycle**, only a bit more complex.
6. **Animals** add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere when they **breathe**.
7. **Plants** soak up carbon dioxide during photosynthesis, storing the carbon in their **cells**.
8. Plants, especially trees, are known as **carbon sinks** because they take **more** carbon out of the atmosphere than they add to it.
9. The **oceans** are carbon sinks too, thanks mostly to marine life, oceans **soak** up more carbon dioxide than they release.
10. When plants and animals **die**, the carbon contained in their bodies enters the earth’s **crust**.
11. The earth’s **crust** keeps carbon **locked** up for millions of years, eventually returning some of it to the atmosphere through **volcanic** eruptions.
12. Normally, the carbon cycle keeps a pretty steady **level** of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
13. Lately the cycle seems to have been thrown out of **balance**; more and more carbon dioxide is entering the atmosphere every year.
14. This is probably because of **human** activity.
15. We create tons of carbon dioxide by burning **fossil fuels**.
16. The clearing of **rainforests** in South America and Africa makes the problem worse in two ways: first, burning the **trees** add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, and second, once the trees are gone, they’re not **soaking** up any more carbon dioxide.
17. Carbon dioxide is a major contributor to the **greenhouse** effect.
18. The Greenhouse effect is the **warming-up** that the earth experiences because of certain gases in our atmosphere.
19. Gases like carbon dioxide **trap** heat in the atmosphere and keep the earth **warm**.
20. Since the start of the Industrial Revolution about 200 years ago, the carbon in the earth’s atmosphere has increased by about **40** percent.
21. Most scientists agree that this has warmed the earth up, and that the warming could have **devastating** effects on the environment.
22. Planting **forests** and finding alternative **energy** sources will help restore the balance.