

THE CARBON CYCLE

What Is Carbon?

- An
- The basis of
- Present in plants, animals, rocks, oceans and the atmosphere

What is the Carbon Cycle?

- Carbon is cycled between the earth and the atmosphere through and **things**
- It travels through the spheres of the **planet**.

Four Parts of the Planet

- Atmosphere- the layer of surrounding our planet
- Hydrosphere- All the rivers, lakes, streams, and on earth
- Biosphere- all
- Lithosphere (geosphere)- The layers of our planet

Plants Use Carbon Dioxide

- Plants pull carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere and use it to **make**
- The carbon becomes part of the living plant ()
- We know this process as

Animals Eat Plants

- When organisms consume plants, they take in the carbon and some of it becomes

Decomposition of Plants and Animals

- When plants and animals die, most of their bodies are decomposed and **carbon atoms** are
- Some are not decomposed fully and end up in deposits underground as fossil fuels ().

Carbon Slowly Returns to Atmosphere

- Carbon found in rocks and underground deposits is released very slowly into the atmosphere through
- The result is that carbon on earth is found in some pools and some relatively pools, depending on the rate at which it cycles in and out