

Cycling Carbon



Charles Keeling: Monitoring the Atmosphere

CO₂ concentrations regularly cycle up and down over the course of a year.

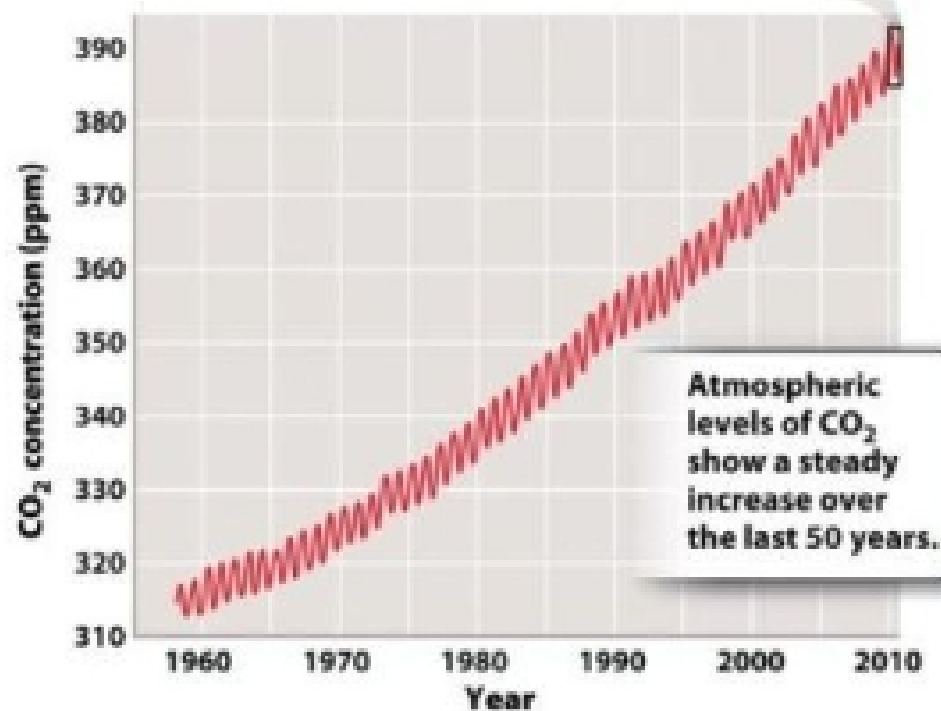
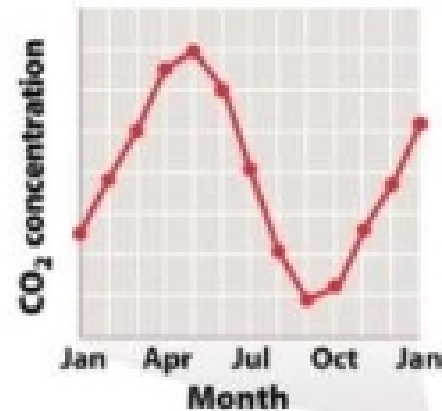


Figure 25.1
Biologic: How Life Works
© 2014 W. H. Freeman and Company

The Carbon Cycle

- The processes that shuttle carbon among rocks, soils, oceans, air and organisms
- CO₂ added to the atmosphere by:
 - Volcanoes, mid-ocean ridges
 - Biological inputs (ie respiration)
 - Human activities (ie deforestation, burning fossil fuels)
- CO₂ removed from the atmosphere by:
 - Geological removal (ie chemical weathering of rocks)
 - Biological (ie photosynthesis)