Impact of CFCs on global warming

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Halogenated organic compounds trap much more heat in the atmosphere than most other known compounds. For example, dichlorodifluoromethane (CFC-12) has a global warming potential almost 11,000 times that of carbon dioxide. This means that, although CFC’s exist in much smaller atmospheric concentrations than other greenhouse gases, their impact can be just as significant.

Ball and stick model of the dichlorodifluoromethane molecule
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1. Name three greenhouse gases.

2. Give three effects of global climate change.

3. Explain how greenhouse gases cause the greenhouse effect.