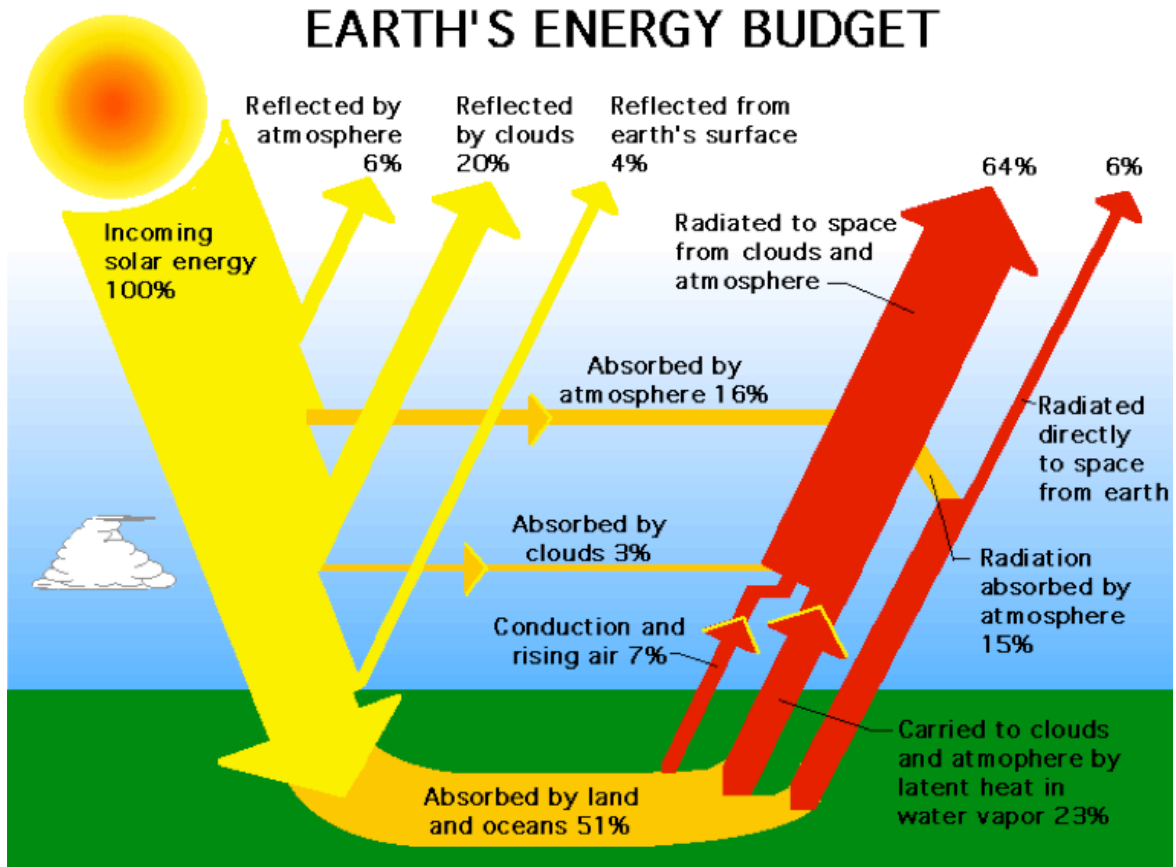


ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Where Solar Energy Goes – Answer Key

Name: _____ Date: _____



"Earth's Radiation Budget Facts."

Atmospheric Science Data Center- NASA. Retrieved April 2011 from http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/EDDOCS/radiation_facts.html.

ANALYSIS QUESTIONS:

1. What percentage of incoming solar energy is absorbed by the Earth's surface?
51%
2. Why isn't more energy absorbed by the Earth's surface?
Some is immediately reflected back into space by clouds and the atmosphere itself.
3. What type of surface might reflect incoming solar radiation?
Clouds, ice, and snow increase the amount of solar radiation that is reflected.
4. Of the incoming solar radiation, how much is reflected by the atmosphere? Absorbed?
6% is reflected and 16% is absorbed.