

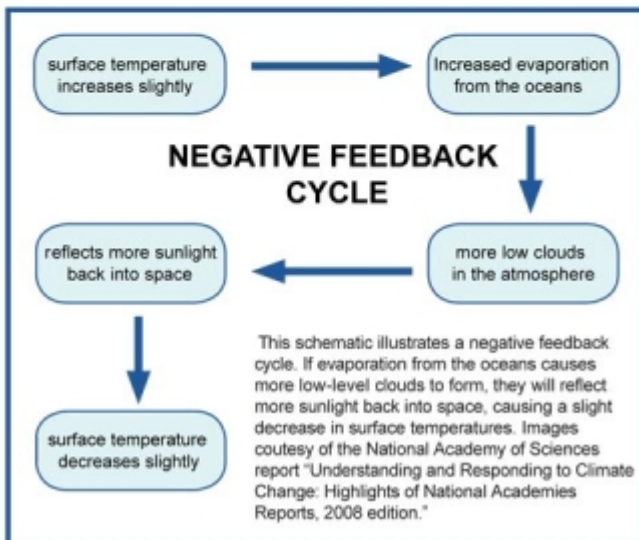
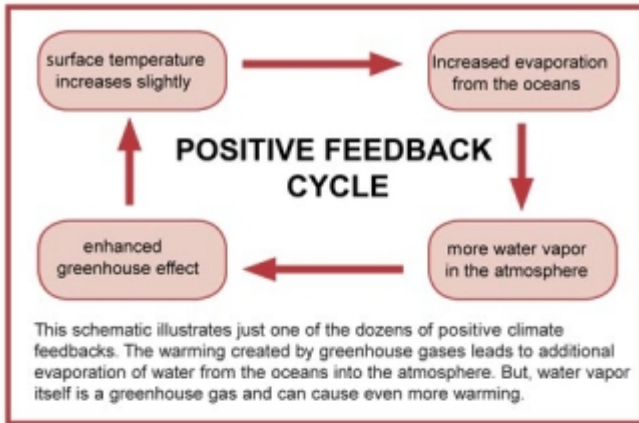
Feedback Mechanisms Inquiry Activity

Directions: There are six (6) feedback loops that will be presented. For each feedback loop, you will describe the nature of the loop, identify the disruption, document the effects, and classify the loop as being either a positive or negative feedback loop. Fill in the table below while you read each station. You will have approximately 10 minutes per station.

Station # and Name	Summarize what occurs in the loop	What is the disruption/ stimulus/trigger?	What is/are the effects of the disruption?	Is this a + or - feedback loop?	Why is it a + or - feedback loop?
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

Analysis: Answer the questions below using complete sentences.

1) Global warming is a process in which the Earth becomes warmer because greenhouse gases trap reflected solar radiation. Scientists are unsure about the effects of global warming. Illustrated below are two possible outcomes for global warming: one a positive feedback loop and the other is a negative feedback loop. Read each feedback loop and identify the loop that you believe will most likely occur. Why do you think this loop will occur? What is the evidence for this decision?



2) Create another feedback loop (positive or negative) that may occur with the increase in surface temperatures on Earth. Diagram the cycle and then identify if the loop you have made is positive or negative. Why?