

City Classroom CAP - Series

PBL support for using your City Climate Action Plan as a Living Textbook for local relevance, student agency, and community impact.



Credit: Kevin Lisota

Carbon Cycle - Best Diagram Debate

Students Debate the best Carbon Cycle Diagrams.

By debating which of these [6 diagrams](#) is the best diagram for explaining the carbon cycle, students review and reinforce their own mental model while strengthening their ability to articulate key concepts.

This instructional strategy has built-in scaffolding for students at different levels to hold onto the image or set of images that work best for them. There is no right answer, just great explanations.

Some possible lines of inquiry...

- Which diagram is the simplest to understand?
- Which diagram is the most comprehensive showing all of the key concepts?
- Which diagram has the best artwork in your opinion?
- Which diagram shows how the carbon cycle works in oceans and lakes?
- If you were to sketch your own diagram, what are the key elements you would take from these different carbon cycle diagrams?