

Date: 8/20/13

Cold 'n Hot: How does Earth's heat level remain constant?

Hypothesis: The free thermometer will be cooler after sitting in the closet, because the bagged one will still have the heat trapped inside.

	Bagged Thermometer °F	Free Thermometer °F
Initial Temp	84	84
T- 30 min in sun	90	86
T- 30 min in closet	88	84

Results: The thermometer in the bag got hotter in the sun, because it held in the heat. In the closet, it lost some heat but not as much as the free thermometer.

Conclusion: The bag allows sunlight in and traps the energy as heat. It behaves like Earth's atmosphere. Without the bag (atmosphere), the temperature drops more when the sun is not shining (closet = night time). Without the atmosphere, Earth would get hot in the daytime and freeze at night. Plants couldn't grow, and we couldn't live on Earth without the atmosphere.

