

4.1.2 Ice Core Guiding Questions Handout

Name _____

Guiding Question: Aren't cycles of warming and cooling natural for Earth's climate?

Temperature Graphs

1. Looking at the data table, in what year does the temperature data start and stop?
2. Looking at the temperature graph, how many cycles of warming and cooling has the Earth had in the past 420,000 years?
3. Has the Earth ever been this hot in the past 420,000 years?

Temperature & Carbon Dioxide Graphs

4. Look at the temperature and carbon dioxide graphs. When carbon dioxide is highest, what is the temperature at the same time?
5. Look at the data table for carbon dioxide. What is the most recent date shown? What is the carbon dioxide level for that date?
6. What is the current level of carbon dioxide?
7. Based on your answers for questions 4-6, what do you think will happen to temperatures in the near future?
8. Do you think this is part of a natural cycle? Why or why not?