

1

C

I am a carbon atom

Follow me as I cycle through air, earth, and ocean in the

Carbon Cycle

2

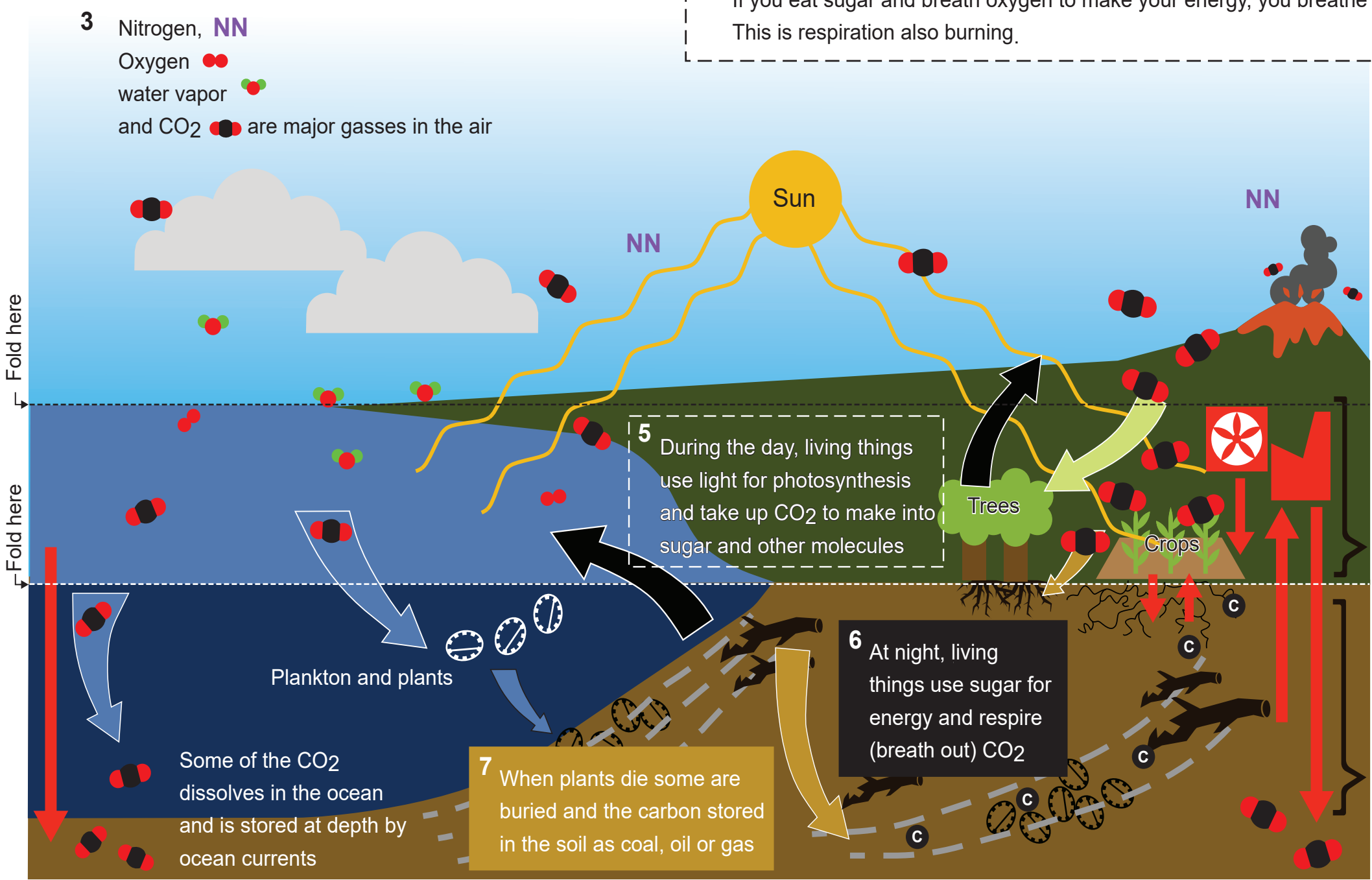
Strong bonds make diamonds

C

I bond with oxygen and hydrogen to make many things

For example sugar

If you eat sugar and breath oxygen to make your energy, you breathe out carbon dioxide CO₂. This is respiration also burning.



- People change the carbon cycle

 - Bring geologically stored carbon out as fossil fuel to use for energy or products
 - In past emit CO₂ to air at smokestack
 - Now we can put it back underground on land and offshore
 - In past plow soil to let stored carbon out.
 - Now farm and reforest to put carbon back
 - Catch CO₂ from air with plants or directly and inject it back underground

Fast Carbon cycle – day and night and seasons

CO₂ take in by plants during daylight during growing season.

Slow Carbon cycle – carbon stored as preserved plants or animals in soil for years or decades or in rocks for more than 10,000 years