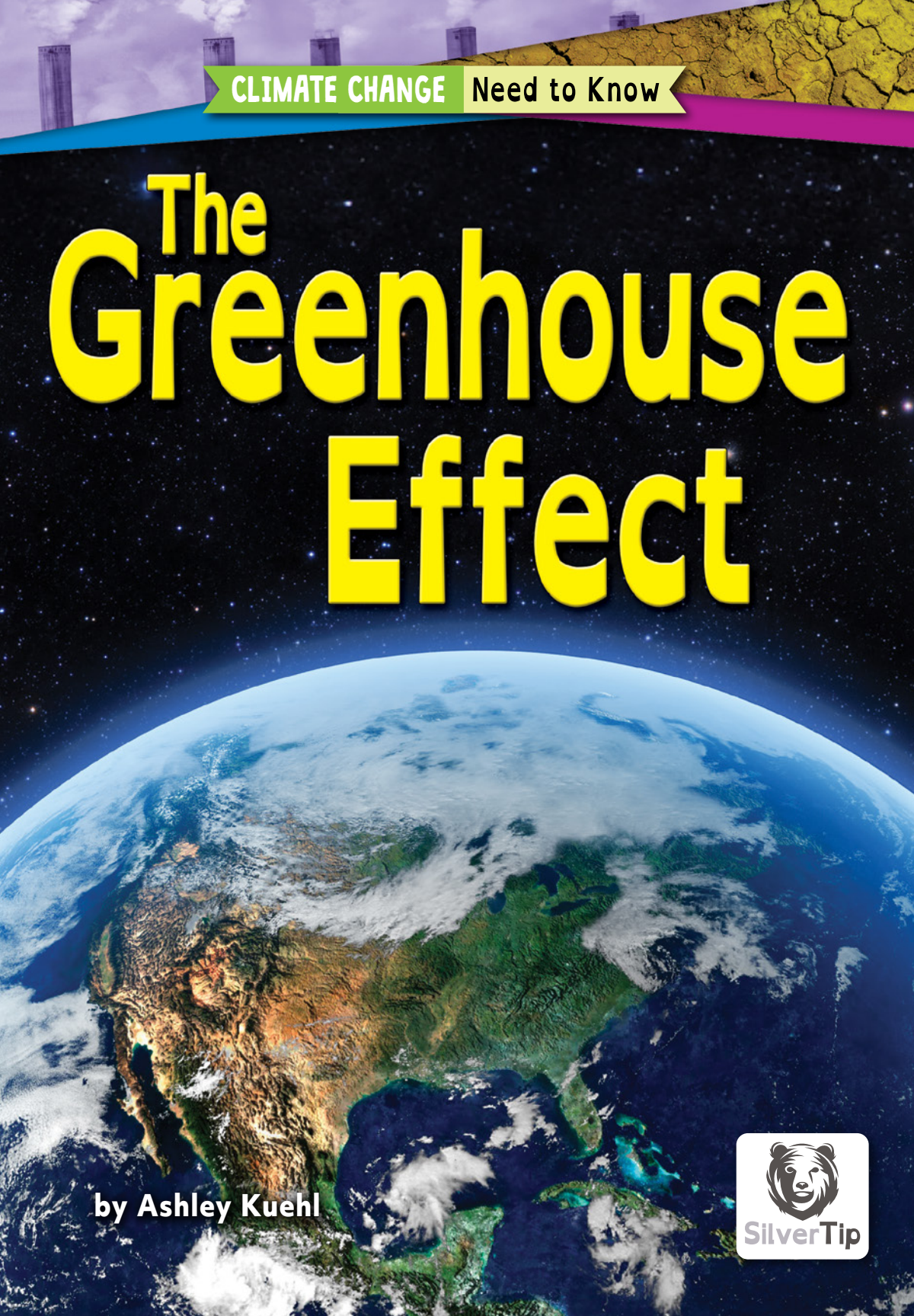




CLIMATE CHANGE

Need to Know

The Greenhouse Effect

by Ashley Kuehl



SilverTip

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Growing All Year

Do you ever bite into a fresh salad in the middle of a cold, snowy winter? Where do those leafy greens come from?

Many vegetables can be grown in **greenhouses** year-round. These buildings stay warm all year because of the sun. Earth is a bit like a greenhouse.

Greenhouses work very well. But sometimes, they get too hot for plants. Farmers can cool things down by opening windows. But Earth doesn't have windows. When it gets hot, it stays hot.





Weather or Climate?

Look out your window. Is it a snowy day? Maybe there is sun and wind. What is the temperature? Weather is what is happening during a moment in time.

Climate is about patterns of weather. It's what can be expected in a place. Sometimes, this expectation changes with the seasons.

A desert usually has a hot, dry climate. But sometimes there is a day with rainy weather. A few days of one type of weather doesn't change a place's climate.





Scientists study climate. They track weather patterns over time. What have they found? Earth's climate is changing. Temperatures are getting higher. Storms are getting bigger. They are happening more often.

Many things impact Earth's climate. The greenhouse effect is one of them.

The average temperature on Earth has gone up about 2 degrees Fahrenheit (1 degree Celsius) since 1880. We are on track to warm at least another 2°F (1°C) by 2050.

