

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

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Ocean waste, air pollution, endangered species, and wildlife conservation

Activity 1: Nature under threat

Discuss these questions with a partner:

1. What is the most serious type of pollution in your country (air, water, noise, plastic)?
2. Have you ever participated in a beach cleanup, park cleanup, or tree-planting event?
3. Why do you think some wild animals are becoming endangered?
4. Do you support national parks and nature reserves? Have you ever visited one?
5. What can local governments do to reduce littering in public parks and streets?
6. Is smog or air quality a problem in big cities near you? How does it affect daily life?

Activity 2: Odd One Out — Environmental challenge terms

In each group of four words, identify the word that does **NOT** belong and explain your reasoning to your partner.

1. **smog • clean air • exhaust fumes • toxic emissions**

   👉 *Odd one out:* _____

   Reason: _____
2. **habitat • national park • nature reserve • landfill**

   👉 *Odd one out:* _____

   Reason: _____
3. **endangered • extinct • protected • thriving**

   👉 *Odd one out:* _____

   Reason: _____
4. **litter • plastic waste • solar panel • ocean rubbish**

   👉 *Odd one out:* _____

   Reason: _____

Activity 3: Design a wildlife protection poster

Imagine you are creating an awareness campaign for a vulnerable animal species in your region or country. Complete the campaign notes:

1. **Target Animal / Habitat:** _____
2. Main Threat (e.g., habitat loss, pollution): _____
3. **Key Slogan for your poster:** _____
4. **Action requested from the public:** _____

Present your campaign idea to your partner in 1 minute.

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Activity 4: Solutions for pollution

Work with a partner. Read the environmental problems below and select two practical solutions for each from the options box.

Problem A: High levels of air pollution in city centers.

- Solution 1: _____
- Solution 2: _____

Problem B: Ocean wildlife eating plastic waste.

- Solution 1: _____
- Solution 2: _____

Options Box:

- Ban single-use plastic packaging in supermarkets.
- Create car-free zones in downtown areas.
- Install more recycling bins in coastal areas.
- Expand public electric bus lines.
- Impose heavy fines for illegal dumping and littering.

Explain your top choice to another pair using the debate phrases.

Use these expressions:

- One effective way to tackle this problem is to...
- If governments enforce stricter laws on..., we will see immediate results.
- I strongly believe that educating the public is more effective than fines.

REAL ENGLISH BOX

Useful expressions for talking about wildlife & pollution:

- **At risk of** — Many marine animals are at risk of swallowing plastic.
- **To clean up after yourself** — Visitors should always clean up after themselves in public parks.
- **To wipe out** — Deforestation threatens to wipe out natural habitats.
- **In the wild** — It is amazing to see animals living freely in the wild.
- **To take action** — Communities must take action before it's too late.
- **Eco-system** — Protecting small insects is vital for the entire ecosystem.

Activity 5: Town council meeting role-play

Work with a partner.

- **Student A (Local Citizen):** You are angry because a local park is covered in litter and plastic waste. Demand action from the town council, suggesting clear fixes.
- **Student B (Town Council Representative):** You have a limited municipal budget. Listen to Student A, explain the budget challenges, but propose two realistic solutions you can implement.

Swap roles after 3 minutes. Try to use words from the REAL ENGLISH BOX.

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Teacher's Key

Activity 2:

1. *Clean air* (the others are forms or causes of air pollution).
2. *Landfill* (a site for waste disposal, whereas the others are natural or protected animal areas).
3. *Thriving* (means flourishing/doing well, whereas the others describe animals facing threat or extinction).
4. *Solar panel* (a clean energy technology, whereas the others are forms of rubbish/pollution).

Activities 1, 3, 4 and 5:

Answers will vary.

Encourage students to practice proposing solutions using conditional structures (*If we do X, then Y will improve*).

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