

## **Pollution**

There are many kinds of pollution. Air, water, and land can be polluted. Some pollution is caused by nature, such as floods, forest fires, and volcanoes. People are the major cause of pollution. We pollute the air with our cars, homes, and factories. We pollute the water by dumping garbage and chemicals in the water. We pollute the soil with chemicals and garbage. We harm the land by cutting down trees in the forest, especially to build roads and new houses without careful planning and thinking.

All people need water to drink and to make plants grow. Rivers and lakes are polluted when sewage or garbage is dumped into the water. Plants and animals die because of the pollution in the water. Other pollution in water is caused by oil spills. The oil often stays on top of the water. It covers the beaches and land. It gets on the fish, birds, and animals that live in, on, and around the water.

**Particulates** are tiny bits of liquid or solid matter that get in the air. Cars and factories put particulates in the air, and this makes the air look gray and smoggy. Usually the wind helps the air pollutants to move around, but when the air doesn't move, pollutants stay in the air. Some people cannot go outside when the air is very bad.

The only way to save our environment is to think about pollution. How can you stop or limit pollution? How do we protect our environment?

Conservation is one way to protect our environment. **Conservation** is the wise use and protection of our environment. We can control water pollution by not producing as much waste and by proper disposal of sewage and garbage. We can take care of recreation land by cleaning up after ourselves and not causing more pollution. Carpooling and public transportation will help reduce air pollution.

Recycling is a type of conservation. **Recycling** is reusing items over again or in a new way. Recycling can help us conserve our natural resources so they will last many more years.

Answer the following questions after reading *Wump World* and the Pollution and Conservation Reading. Be sure to write your answers in complete sentences.

1. What are two things that you can do to stop pollution?

2. What are two things you can do to protect our environment?

3. What is one thing that you can do to practice conservation?

4. What is one thing at your house that you can do to conserve natural resources?

5. What is one thing at your school that you can do to conserve natural resources?

Circle the correct answer based on what you learned from *Wump World* and the other reading on conservation.

1. How can we help save our environment?
  - a. stop pollution
  - b. put garbage in the river
  - c. drive cars everywhere
  
2. What are tiny bits of liquid or solid matter called?
  - a. oil spills
  - b. environment
  - c. particulates
  
3. Recycling is:
  - a. wasting natural resources
  - b. reusing items over again
  - c. creating pollution
  
4. What is the main idea of this article?
  - a. The air is dirty from cars.
  - b. The soil gets polluted from littering.
  - c. People cause pollution, but they can also stop or limit it.
  
5. How does the author feel about conservation?
  - a. It is a waste of time.
  - b. Everyone needs to do his/her part.
  - c. Only some people should conserve natural resources.