

The Knowledge

Supporting the National Curriculum



Knowing More

Remembering More

Learning More

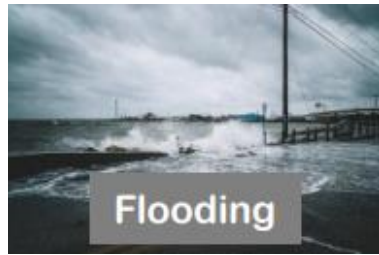
Living Things and Their Habitats - Conservation



ARDLEIGH GREEN
JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 4
Science

How do environments change?



Why do environments change?

Natural Changes: Different **seasons** can change **habitats**.

Greenhouse gases cause **climate change** and climate change has caused our planet to get a lot **warmer** over a very short period of time. This has caused more **extreme weather events** like hurricanes, floods and droughts.

Human changes: How humans **live** and what they **do** can impact habitats both **negatively** and **positively**.

Negative human changes:

- ❖ **Deforestation** – **cutting** down **trees** for a range of reasons.
- ❖ **Littering** – **dropping rubbish** or leaving large objects lying in the environment.
- ❖ **Pollution** – introducing **substances** into the environment.

Positive human changes:

- ❖ Protecting **endangered** species via **conservation** projects.
- ❖ **Cleaning** bodies of **water**
- ❖ **Recycling**

Key Vocabulary

migrate: to move from one area to another

monsoon: rainy season

deforestation: the cutting down of forests, including rainforests

biodiversity: the variety of living things

emissions: the production or discharge of something, especially gas or radiation

pollution: harmful or poisonous substances

pesticide: a chemical substance used to kill insects that harm plants and crops

contaminate : to make something impure by adding a poisonous or polluting substance

drought: a long period of time where there is a shortage of water

freshwater: water that does not contain salt

marine sanctuaries: ocean areas that protect the wildlife from harm

conservation areas: areas on land or sea that protect the wildlife from harm production

Pollution

The **water** people use in their homes comes from **nature** and must be **cleaned** up to be **returned** to nature so it can be used **again**. This is an important part of our **water cycle**.



What causes **water pollution**?

- Each and every day, dangerous **chemicals**, **waste products** and **sewage** are released into our rivers, lakes and oceans, **contaminating** our water.
- Farmers use **pesticides** and **fertilisers** in their fields, which wash into streams and rivers.
- Most of our **rubbish** ends up in the **oceans**.
- When we flush the **toilet**, our **waste** goes into the **sewers** and into seas.
- **Disasters**, such as **oil** spills, pollute the seas.



What causes **air pollution**?

- **Transport** (cars/buses/trains/planes etc.) cause **harmful gases** to enter the air.
- Large **factories** and many **electric power stations** burn **fossil fuels**.

Test Yourself

- How are ecosystems affected by the changes of the seasons?
- How do humans impact the environment through deforestation?
- What is air pollution?
- What is water pollution?
- How can we conserve water?
- How can humans have a positive impact on nature?