

Pollution You Can See

Class/Grade: Grade 1-8

ACTIVITY GOAL:

Build awareness of the air pollution at schools and how this may impact their environment and health

CURRICULUM EXPECTATIONS:

Health and Physical Education - Healthy Living

Grade 1: C3.2

Grade 2: C3.2

Grade 3: C2.3

Grade 4: C2.2

Grade 6: C3.1

Science and Technology - Understanding Life Systems

Grade 1: 1.1, 1.2, 3.4, 3.5

Grade 3: 1.2, 3.8

Grade 5: 1.1, 1.2, 2.2

Grade 7: 1.1, 1.2, 3.8

Science and Technology - Understanding Earth and Space

Grade 2: 1.1

Grade 5: 1.1, 1.2

FOUNDATIONS:

Social and Physical Environments

Student Engagement

Curriculum, Teaching, Learning

LEARNING/LESSON ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION:

Collecting particulate matter from various areas around the school will allow students to visibly see where and why accumulation is greatest at the particular location.

REQUIRED RESOURCES:

Pieces of heavy paper, index cards or paper plates, Vaseline, string or duct tape, hole-punch and magnifying glasses.

Teachers can watch the following video to better understand the activity:

<https://www.amazon.com/Pollution-Catcher-Vaseline-Paper-Plate/dp/B00HE07296>

INSTRUCTIONS:

Setting the Stage

Instruct and aid the students in brainstorming sources of air pollution around the school. Tell the class they will be making pollution catchers and have them decide where they would like to locate them on school property. Have the class predict the outcomes prior to observing the pollutants from the pollution catchers (which location might have the most pollution).

Creating and Placing Pollution Catcher

You can divide the class into small groups to work on creating pollution catchers for one or all locations.

Write the location where the pollution catcher will be placed on the back of the heavy paper, index card or paper plate. Create holes if using string to hang pollution catchers. On the surface, without the written location, coat each pollution catcher with Vaseline.

After completing the pollution catcher hang them at decided upon locations.

Observing Pollutants:

After 2-3 days, remove the papers from their locations and compare them with a magnifying glass. You will be looking for little black particles of pollutants.

Engage the class in a discussion about differences observed between pollution catchers. Which one has more? Why do you think that is?

ACTIVITY TWEETS

- 1) Pollution is something we can't see most of the time. Having children create pollution catchers allows them the opportunity to look at the air pollution around their school and find out the reasons why they see it there.
- 2) Pollution You Can See is a great school activity to educate them on the issues of climate change and see for themselves the need to make changes to make a greener and healthier earth.

NOTES:
