

## Human Impacts on Ecosystems

Human lives are better now than they have ever been before. In Canada for example, we are lucky to have easy access to doctors when we are sick, food when we are hungry, and water when we are thirsty. We even enjoy many conveniences like cell phones, cars and roads for fast transportation, and heated houses in the winter. All these things come at a cost, though. Every human activity has an impact on the ecosystems around us. ***Your task is to research one human activity and its impact on the ecosystem. You will then present your research to the class.***

1. Choose a human activity to research:

- using pesticides on food crops
- using water (irrigation) for crops
- using fertilizer (plant food) to help crops grow
- smoke (exhaust) from driving cars
- pollution from factories
- cutting down trees (deforestation)
- building dams to control the flow of water
- single-use plastics (knives, forks, spoons, straws, plates, etc.)
- garbage dumps (landfills)
- making electricity from fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas)
- building roads
- mining coal
- mining for special metals used in cell phones and other electronics
- cleaning up wastewater
- illegal wildlife poaching (killing)
- using land for farming crops
- using land for farming animals (cows, pigs, sheep, etc.)
- other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Use a computer to research your topic.

3. Create a PowerPoint presentation with the following information

- Title** slide for the topic
- Description & pictures** of the human activity – you may need more than one slide.
- Important **vocabulary** for understanding the topic
  - create a new slide for each word
  - give the **meaning** of the word, a **picture**, and **examples** (if possible)
  - be able to **say** the word and **teach** the class how to say it!! (ask Korean for help 😊)
- Identify **two impacts** of the human activity on the ecosystem.

**Remember:** *ecosystems include living and non-living things that are all connected.*

- Create at least one slide for each impact. Include pictures and/or a short YouTube clip.
  - What part of the ecosystem is impacted? Is it living or non-living?  
What happens to it?
  - Identify and explain at least one **solution** for fixing the problem.
  - Copy and paste the website URLs onto your last slide to show where you got your information from.
4. Practice giving your presentation to another group before you present to the entire class!!

## Presentation Assessment

Names of presenters: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria	5	3	1	0
<b>Voice</b> The presenters were loud and clear in their speaking. They made sure to know how to say each word and the meaning of each word. They had obviously practiced before because the presentation flowed nicely.				
<b>Information</b> The presenters learned a lot about their topic through their research. They talked about all the things listed on the previous page. They were able to answer reasonable questions from their peers and the teacher.				
<b>Powerpoint</b> The Powerpoint was easy to understand because there were lots of pictures to help explain the topic. The writing was easy to read and helped the students to understand the topic.				

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL = \_\_\_\_ /15**