



Y6 Geography

Environmental challenges



What kinds of pollution are there?

There main types of pollution are:

- air
- water
- soil
- noise

Where do the plastics we throw away end up?

Plastic you put in the bin ends up in landfill. Plastics, especially those dropped as litter, can also end up in rivers and the oceans causing damage to the environment and endangering animal life



What is the impact of pollution in our local area?

Air pollution from cars and buses affects the air quality in our local area. This can lead to poor health including lung disease. The noise from trains and building construction also make it hard for us to concentrate and learn. Pollution in the form of rubbish also blights the streets and communal areas like parks.



What advice would you give to someone who says they are too busy to recycle?

Recycling is one important way we, as individuals, can help to protect the environment. Recycling reduces the need for extracting (mining, quarrying and logging), refining and processing raw materials all of which create substantial air and water pollution.

It only takes a moment to put rubbish in the correct bin but it can have a long term positive impact on our planet.

Key vocabulary

impact	To have a strong effect on something
landfill	a place for disposing of solid waste
congestion	traffic congestion is when there are too many vehicles on the road and they move slowly
decompose	To break down or decay
Densely populated	a place where a lot of people live in a small area
Economic activity	making things to sell to people, or providing a service to people and being paid for it.
Fossil fuel	energy sources created by dead plants and animals and found in the ground: coal, oil and gas
Natural resource	resources that exist without any actions of humankind. On Earth, it includes sunlight, atmosphere, water, land along with all vegetation, and animal life.
Renewable energy	energy that is made from a source that is not depleted when used, such as wind or solar power
Sustainable development	improving the quality of people's lives now without spoiling the ability of people in the future to meet their needs