

How Do Organisms Affect Their Environment?

Science Words

Say each word quietly to yourself. Then read the meaning.

Read the tip to help you remember.

pollution [puh•LOO•shin] any substance in an environment that can harm living things

Pollution and *poison* begin with the same sound. *Pollution* poisons the environment by making it harmful to living things.

conservation [kahn•ser•VAY•shuhn] using natural resources wisely

If you were in a desert, you would want to make your water last as long as possible. To do that, you would be careful not to spill it. You would use it wisely. You would conserve it.

Conservation and *conserve* are in the same word family. *Conservation* is conserving our natural resources so they last as long as possible.

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Science Concepts

Read the Ideas more than once. Do your best to remember them.

1. Plants give off oxygen during photosynthesis; animal and people need oxygen to live.
2. Plants provide shelter for many animals; their roots help hold soil in place.
3. Kudzu is a plant that harms the environment because it grows fast and crowds out other plants.
4. Animal waste helps the environment by adding nutrients to the soil.
5. Bees and other animals spread pollen, which helps plants reproduce.
6. Pollution that people produce is harmful to the environment.
7. Pollution is any substance in the environment that can harm living things.
8. Factories, power plants, and traffic put pollution into the air and water.
9. Conservation is a way people can be helpful to the environment.
10. People can reduce, reuse, and recycle things to make resources last longer.