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**PHOTO**

# PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT



**Photo Cards To Build Environmental Awareness**

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ECO PHOTO cards contain images, information and activities to increase awareness of global and environmental issues for students working in a cross-curricular context. The focus is on discussion in groups as well as at whole class level, using the CD-ROM supplied in this pack to facilitate projection onto a whiteboard.

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## Global Warming



### Background Information

- Global warming occurs as the surface of the Earth gets warmer.
- Carbon dioxide gas in the air traps the sun's rays near the surface of the Earth making things warmer and changing the climate.
- If global warming continues, seas will rise and the weather will change.

### Look At The Photograph

1. What type of bear is shown in the photo? Where does it live?
2. How is climate change through global warming affecting this animal's life? The bear is clinging to a small piece of ice. What will happen when the ice melts?
3. How will global warming affect the kind of food that it eats? How will it change the lives of other animals in the region?
4. What are the some of the things that you can do that will stop greenhouse gases and slow down global warming?

### Linked Activities

- Research and create a map, showing how ice has retreated over time in the Arctic because of global warming.
- Research your local weather conditions and the changes that have happened in the last 20 years.
- Investigate the native peoples of the Arctic region: how they live, what they eat. How will they be affected by global warming?
- Plan a campaign: 'What you can do today to stop global warming', e.g. recycling.

### More Information

Global warming is the term used to describe what happens when there is an increase in the Earth's temperature, leading to changes in the world's climate. This is caused by so-called 'greenhouse gas' such as carbon dioxide. This absorbs heat in the atmosphere and so makes the world warmer. This in turn affects climates, amounts of rainfall, types of agriculture, weather conditions, melting ice caps and rising sea-levels. Animals such as polar bears will be at risk.



## Recycling

### Background Information

- The amount of waste we produce is increasing. We need to protect our environment.
- We need to increase the amount of waste that is recycled, because some resources are finite.
- Landfill and burning have their own environmental and social issues, so recycling is an obvious solution.



### Look At The Photographs

1. Which photo does NOT show recycling? What has happened to the waste in this photo? Why is that not a good thing?
2. Look at the waste bins. What do you think each might be for? What tells you?
3. What symbols are used to show what can be recycled? How many do you know?
4. When trees are pruned and dead branches removed what does the photo show they can be made into? What are these small pieces of wood used for? Why is it important that we save trees?

### Linked Activities

- Create displays to show the differences between degradable and biodegradable products. Use pictures of such products cut from magazines to make collages.
- Find out if there are any landfill sites in your areas. How are they managed to avoid problems?
- Investigate packaging of products. What can be done to reduce this?
- What are the '3Rs'? How can we make sure more people recycle?

### More Information

With increased population and affluence there are more goods than ever before. This means that more waste packaging materials are being thrown away. Many are plastic and do not break down when they are put in the ground. Waste can be burned (producing greenhouse gases) or put in landfill, or dumped at sea (both causing hazards for wildlife and pollution). Recycling can both save precious resources and reduce pollution and greenhouse gases.