

# AIR DETECTIVES

## SOLVING POLLUTION PUZZLES



### WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH?

Environmental health means taking care of the Earth and everything that lives on it, including plants, animals, and people. It's about making sure our air, water, and land are clean and safe to enjoy.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

A healthy environment lets us breathe fresh air, drink clean water, and play in safe places. Protecting the environment keeps us and our neighborhoods healthy and happy.

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**NYS**CHECK Summer Academy

## AIR DETECTIVE PLEDGE

As Air Detectives, we promise to protect our planet and keep our air clean! We know that clean air is essential for a healthy environment and a happy life.

By signing, I promise to:

1. **Be an Air Detective:** I will keep my eyes open for air pollution sources around me, like smoky cars and factories, and report them to grown-ups.
2. **Choose Clean Transportation:** I will walk, bike, or use public transportation whenever possible to reduce air pollution from cars.
3. **Reuse, Reduce, & Recycle:** I will recycle paper, plastic, and cans, and use fewer things that create waste to keep our air and planet clean.
4. **Spread the Word:** I will share what I learn about air pollution and its impact with my friends and family to inspire them to protect the air too.
5. **Plant a Seed of Change:** I will never underestimate my power to make a difference, no matter how small my actions may seem.

By signing this pledge, I promise to be a dedicated Air Detective, protecting our environment and working towards a cleaner, healthier planet for everyone!

Sign your name here: \_\_\_\_\_

# WELCOME TO THE AIR DETECTIVES!



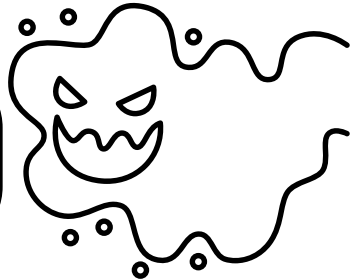
Are you ready for an exciting adventure in the world of clean air and environmental health? This booklet will be a great introduction to becoming an Air Detective. Air Detectives have a mission to protect our environment, both inside and out, and keep our air fresh and pure. Let the mission to protect the environment and breathe clean air begin!

## WATCH OUT FOR PROFESSOR POLLUTANT!

Professor Pollutant comes from air pollution. Air pollution is when the air becomes harmful because of things like smoke, chemicals, and dust. Air pollution can be caused by cars, factories, fires, smoking, and construction. It can be harmful for our health, so it's important to stop!

### DID YOU KNOW?

Air pollution can happen in our homes and other indoor places when we do things like cook! It's important to be careful.



## SEARCH FOR CLEAN AIR

Hey there, Air Detective! Can you spot all the words that can clue us into a clean environment?



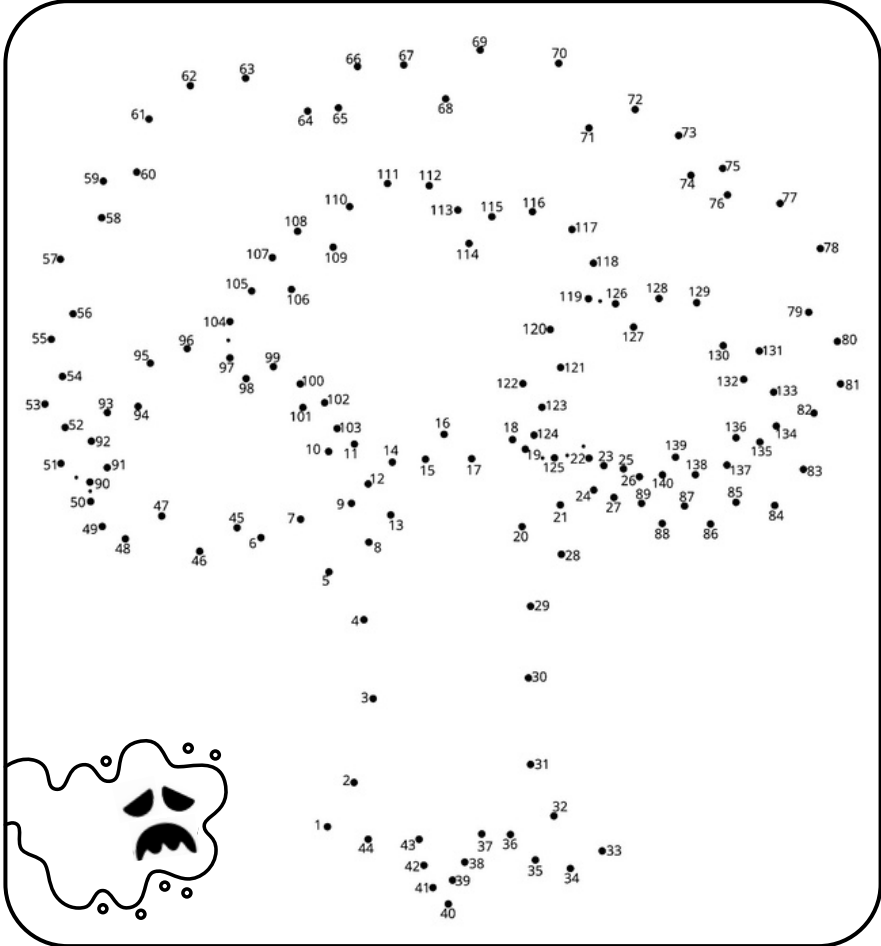
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 AJETAARNSCMDOOE  
 NXDIBRTJHLLPSON  
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### WORD BANK:

Air	Earth	Garden	Reduce
Bicycle	Emission	Health	Renewable
Breathe	Energy	Ozone	Reuse
Carpool	Environment	Pollution	Smog
Clean	Factory	Recycle	Sustainable
Compost			

# WE FOUND CLUES!

SOMETHING IS HELPING CLEAN THE AIR! CAN YOU CONNECT THE DOTS TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S RESPONSIBLE?



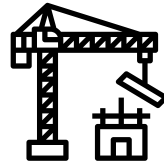
## DID YOU KNOW?

Trees absorb carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), an air pollutant. In one year, an acre of mature trees absorbs the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> produced by a car driven 26,000 miles.

# CAN YOU MATCH THE POLLUTANT TO ITS NAME?

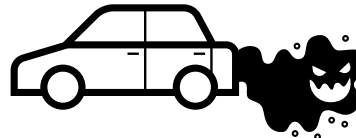
## CONSTRUCTION

*Did you Know?*  
When construction is happening it can create a lot of dust and debris that can get into the air and cause pollution.



## TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES

*Did you Know?*  
Automobiles make up about 60% of human made air pollution.



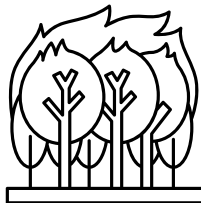
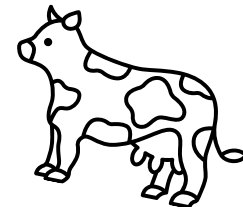
## FACTORIES

*Did you Know?*  
Factories create pollution by releasing harmful chemicals and gases into the air.



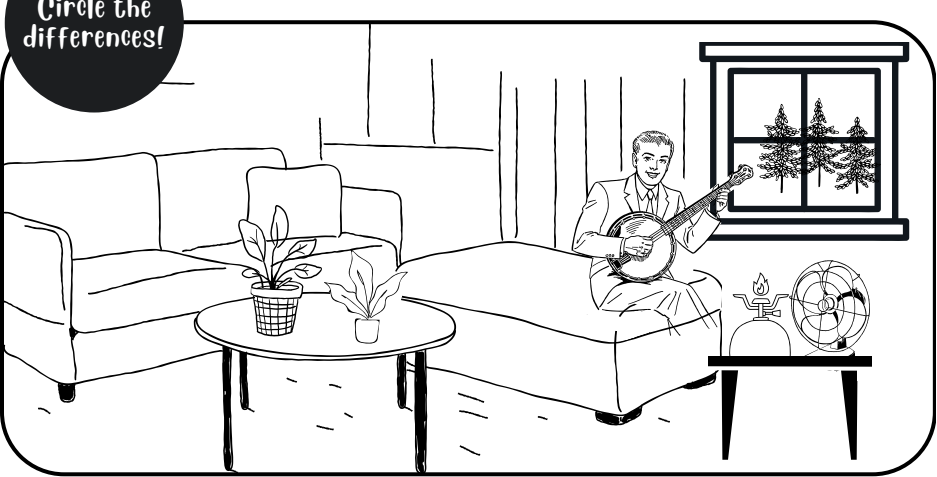
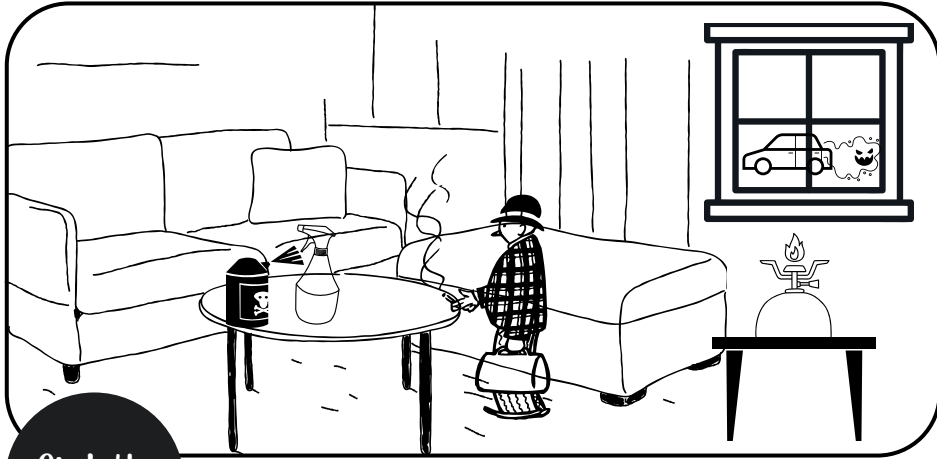
## FIRE

*Did you Know?*  
Los Angeles is the city with the worst air pollution in the US. Frequent fires in California make it even worse.



# SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

WHICH SIDE HAS BETTER AIR INDOORS?



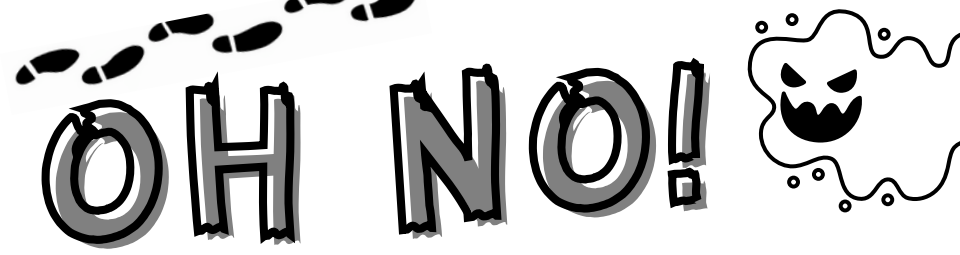
Circle the differences!

LIST: WHAT INDOOR AIR POLLUTION SOURCES DO YOU SEE?

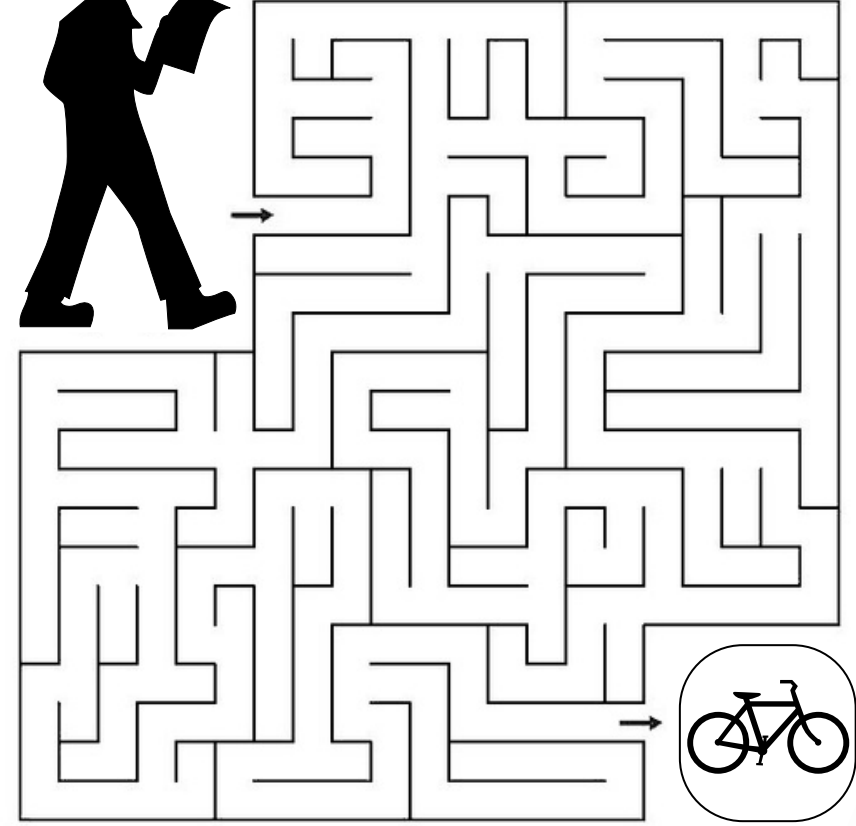
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LIST: WHAT CAN BE DONE TO HELP IMPROVE AIR INDOORS?

- 
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Professor Pollutant stole somebody's bike!  
Can you navigate the maze to get it back?



## DID YOU KNOW?

Biking is a fun way to reduce air pollution and stay healthy!  
Other forms of low-pollution transportation include walking and taking the bus!

# DO YOU WANT TO KEEP YOUR AIR CLEAN?

There are some easy ways to keep Professor Pollutant away! To try to decrease air pollution in your home & neighborhood, you could:

**GARDEN!**

**REUSE, REDUCE, RECYCLE!**

**TURN OFF THE LIGHTS!**

**PLANT TREES!**

**OPEN WINDOWS WHILE COOKING!**

**LIMIT FIREPLACE USE!**

**WALK, BIKE, & CARPOOL!**

**BE AN ECO-FRIENDLY ROLE MODEL!**

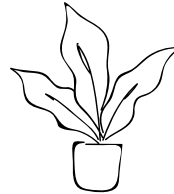


**DRAW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!**

**WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DO TO MAKE THE AIR CLEANER WHERE YOU LIVE?**

Circle which solutions you plan to use!

# POLLUTION SOLUTIONS



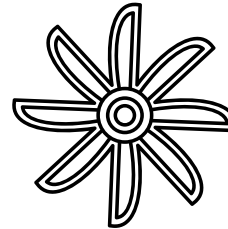
**Use Indoor Plants**



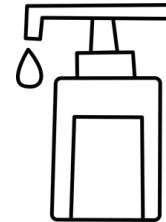
**Avoid Burning Wood or Trash**



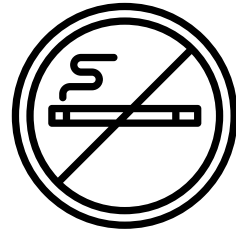
**Keep Spaces Clean**



**Properly Ventilate While Cooking**



**Use Natural Cleaning Products**



**No Smoking Indoors**



**Check for Mold**



**Clean and Groom Pets**