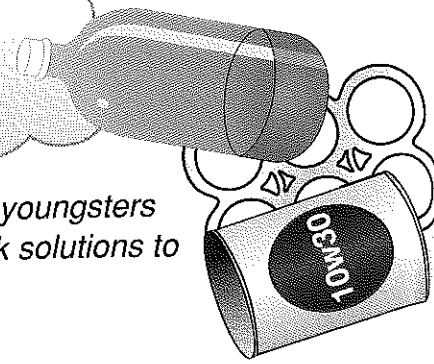


# Pollution



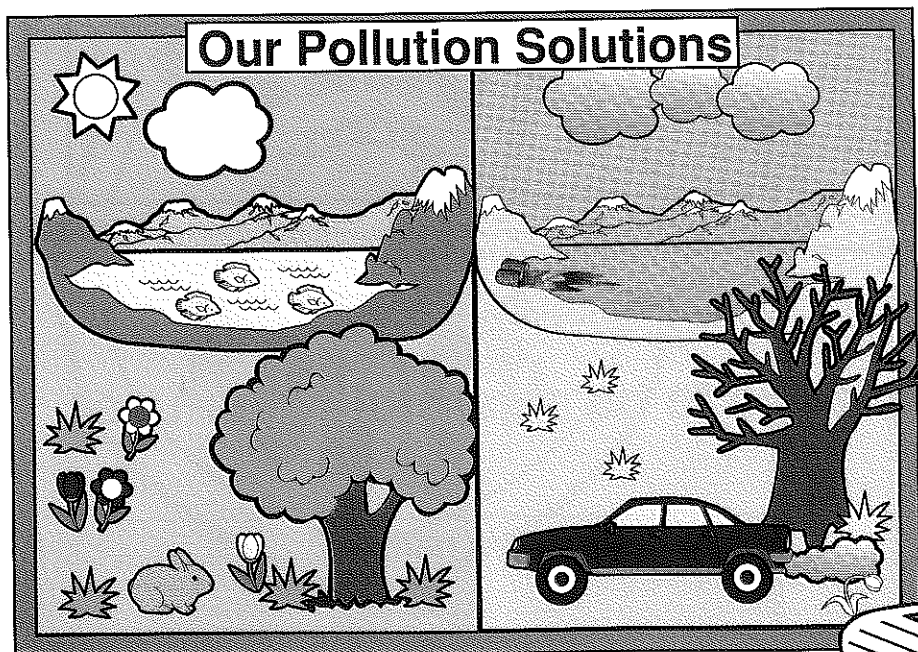
Every "litter" bit of this collection of ideas will help your youngsters understand that they can't hide from pollution but must seek solutions to the environmental problems they see.

## Our Pollution Solutions

(Creative Writing, Art, Bulletin Board)

Challenge students to identify pollution problems and possible solutions with this informative bulletin board. Cover half a bulletin board with bright blue paper and the other half with dull gray paper. Next, enlarge onto white construction paper the patterns on pages 38 and 39. Recruit some students to help cut out and color the patterns. Then tack the cutouts from page 38 on the blue side of the board to represent an unpolluted environment. Tack the cutouts from page 39 on the gray side to represent pollution. If desired, add some dry trash items like gum or candy wrappers to the pollution side for a 3-D effect. Title the display "Our Pollution Solutions."

Compare and contrast the two sides of the board with your class. Then invite students to share observations of pollution in their community. Point out that air, land, and water often become polluted as a result of human carelessness. Have students brainstorm possible solutions to local pollution problems. Instruct them to write about a specific pollution problem and describe a solution for it. Have students illustrate their final drafts. Then display the illustrated solutions along the outside borders of the bulletin board.



## Background for the Teacher

- *Pollution* is anything not from nature that harms the environment.
- Three main types of pollution are air, water, and soil pollution.
- Fuel-burning vehicles such as cars and buses are the main causes of air pollution.
- Burning garbage in open dumps and smoke from factories also cause air pollution.
- Water covers 70% of the earth's surface. Of this water, only 3% is fresh water and only 1% is available for drinking.
- Oil spills in our oceans, lakes, rivers, and streams are particularly serious since wind, currents, and tides make cleanup difficult.
- Agricultural pesticides are one of the most hazardous forms of pollution.
- When pollutants combine with rainwater in clouds, acid rain is formed.
- Pollution also results from careless disposal of household products.



## Earth-Friendly Books

- The Berenstain Bears Don't Pollute (Anymore)* by Stan and Jan Berenstain (Random House, 1991)
- Ecology* by R. Spurgeon (EDC Publications, 1990)
- Oil Spill!* by Melvin Berger (HarperTrophy Publishers, 1994)
- Pollution and Waste* by Rosie Harlow and Sally Morgan (Kingfisher Books, 1995)
- Tower to the Sun* by Colin Thompson (Knopf, 1997)

