Human/Environment Interaction Project

iEARN (International Education and Research Network)
Places & Perspectives: Elementary, Fall 2011 (PPE1)

Compiled by:
Cherokee Students, Lake Forest, IL., USA

Human/Environment Interaction

Humans interact with the environment in three different ways:

- Adapt
  - How do we change ourselves to live within our environment?
- Modify
  - How do we change our environment to fit our needs?
- Depend
  - How do we rely on our environment to make our lives better?

Human/Environment Interaction

Mrs. Crealock's Kindergarten class

Loch Lomond Elementary School

Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada

Human/Environment Interaction

Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada

- We depend on our environment in three ways:
  - Jobs
  - Products for exports
  - Recreation

Human/Environment Interaction

Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada

- Pulp and paper in Saint John, N.B.
  - J.D. Irving Limited is a privately owned company.
  - JDI traces its roots to a sawmill operated in Bouctouche, N.B. by its namesake, James Dargavel Irving. J.D. Irving's operations were entrusted to his children who then assumed majority ownership and used JDI as a springboard for expanding into pulp and paper and other forestry-related businesses between the 1920s-1940s.
  - It is still going strong today.

Irving pulp and paper
Saint John, N.B.

Human/Environment Interaction

Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada

- **Irving Oil Refinery**
  - **Irving Oil** is a gasoline, oil, and natural gas producing and exporting company. It is also one of the few energy companies in Canada. Irving Oil operates one large oil refinery.
  - The **Irving Oil Refinery**, located in Saint John, NB is the largest oil refinery in Canada, producing more than 300,000 barrels (48,000 m^3) of energy products per day.

Human/Environment Interaction

Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada

- **Recreation**
  - **Poley Mountain**: a ski hill 45 minutes outside of Saint John.
  - **Irving Nature Park**: on the outskirts of Saint John, enjoy hiking and a picnic lunch.
  - **Rockwood Park**: a bit of nature in the city's center; hiking, swimming, horseback riding, skating, kayaking, camping, children's playground.

Human/Environment Interaction

Mrs. Kolstoe's 4th grade class

Lynnwood Elementary School

Lynnwood, Washington, USA

Human/Environment Interaction

Lynnwood, Washington, USA

- Ways we depend on the environment
  - Food Supply
  - Energy Source
  - Air
  - Water
  - Recreation
  - Natural resources for industry

Human/Environment Interaction

Lynnwood, Washington, USA

- Humans can impact our environment in a negative way
  - Intensive agriculture leads to loss of diversity
  - Energy production can lead to damages (nuclear catastrophe in Japan, Dams limit the reproduction of Salmon in Northwest)
  - Industry leads to Pollution of air and water
  - Overuse of resources threatens natural balance

Human/Environment Interaction

Lynnwood, Washington, USA

- Things we can do to help the environment at individual level
  - Seek renewable energy or low energy use when possible
  - Watch our use of water
  - Turn off lights/TV when not being used
  - Walk or bike to school
  - Protect the environment around us by not polluting it
  - Plant native trees and plants to restore habitat for animals
  - Be careful not to pollute, do not throw trash
  - Reduce, Re-Use and Recycle
  - Stay on the trail when we visit National Parks
  - Do not pick wildflowers or disturb wild animals

Human/Environment Interaction

Lynnwood, Washington, USA

Drawings by students

Recycle

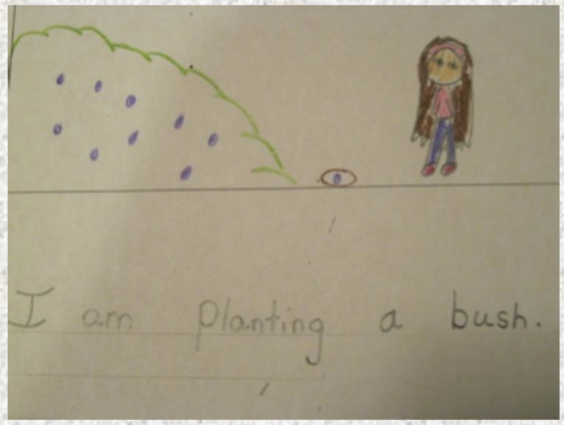
Wash dishes by hand

Plant trees

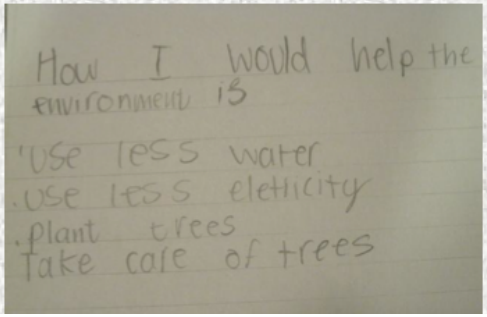
Enjoy beautiful leaves in Fall, but stay on the trail

Human/Environment Interaction

Lynnwood, Washington, USA

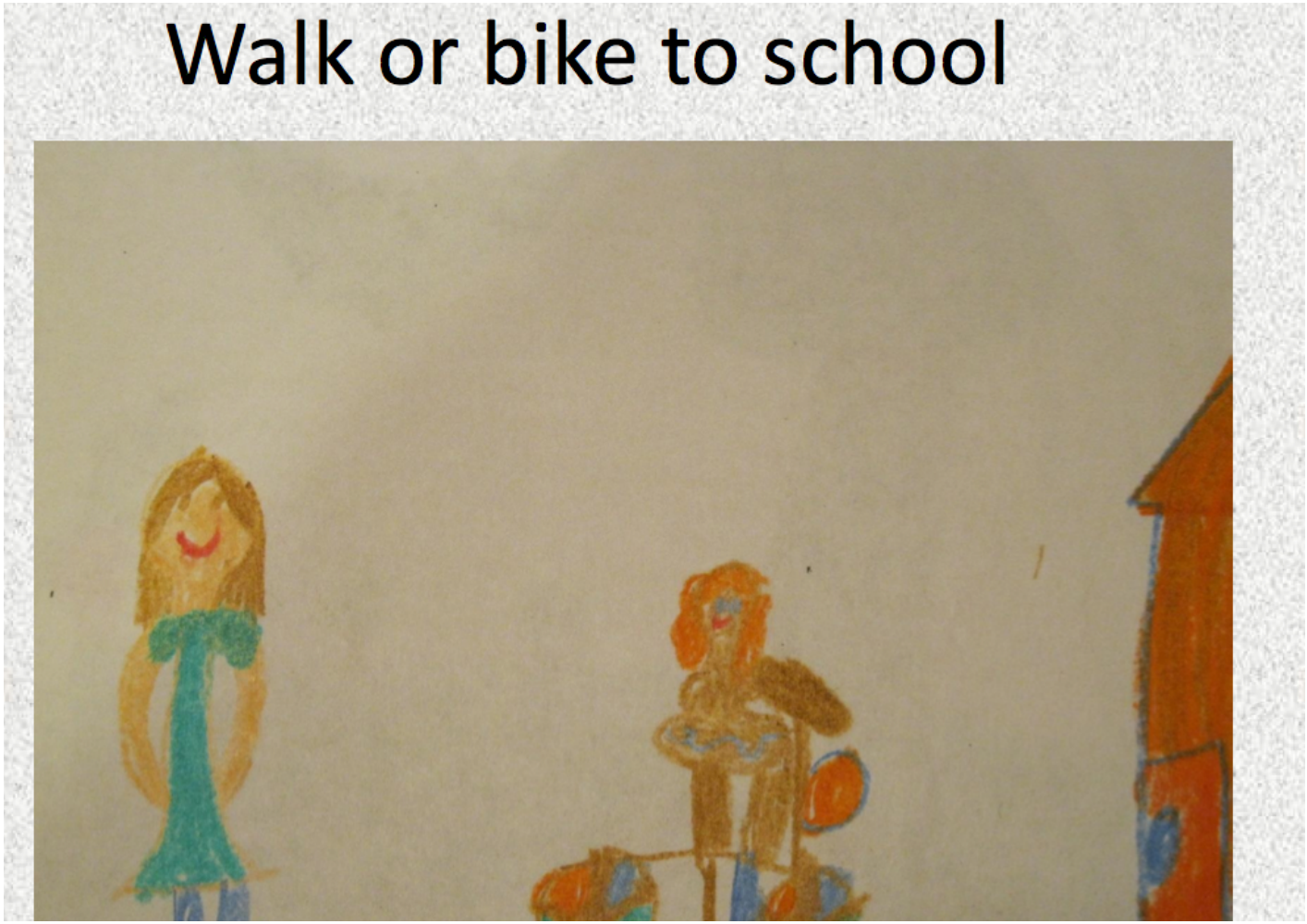


Protect environment for animals and people



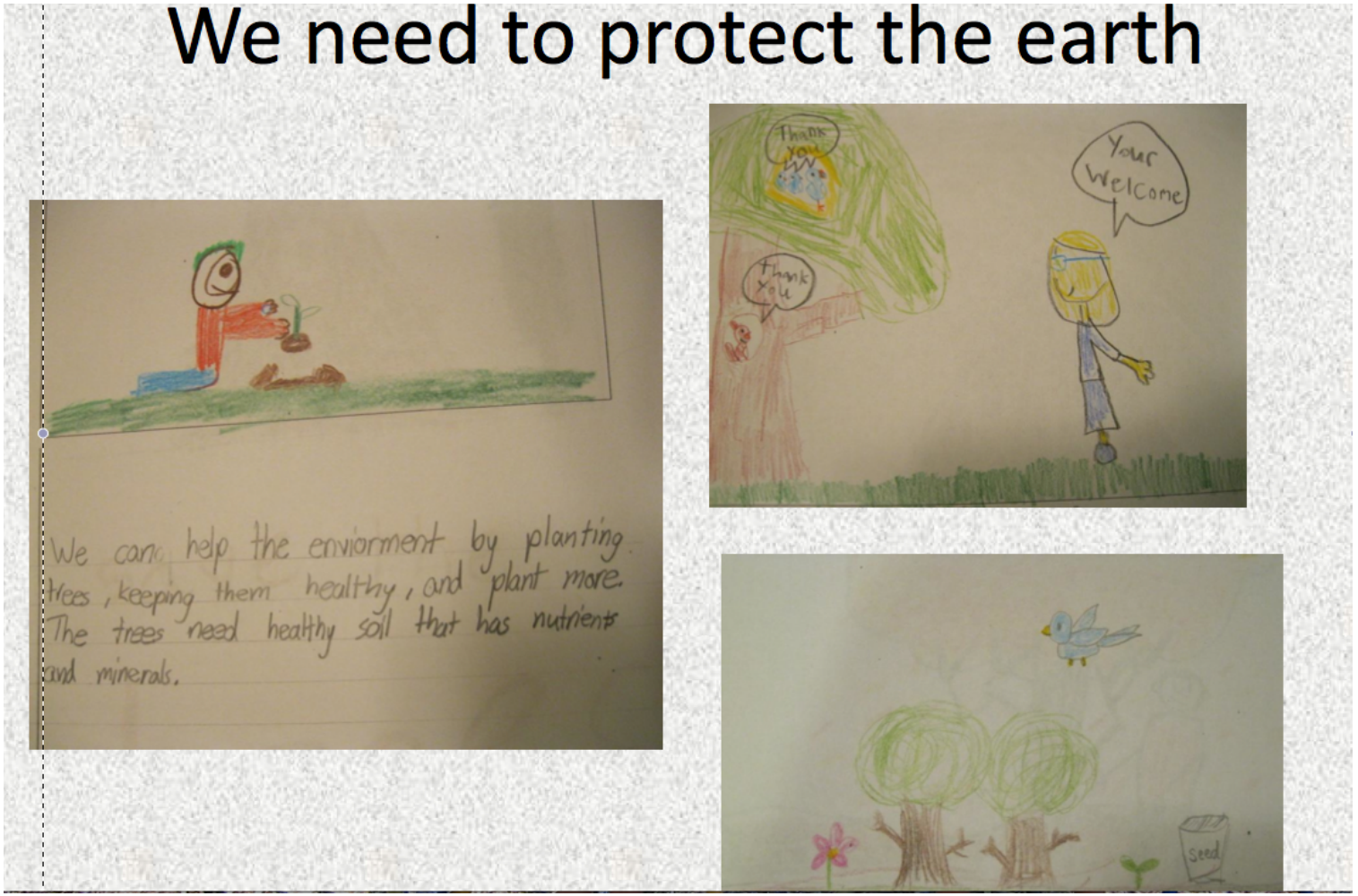
Human/Environment Interaction

Lynnwood, Washington, USA



Human/Environment Interaction

Lynnwood, Washington, USA



Human/Environment Interaction

Carmen Sylva School

Class 2nd A

Eforie Sud, Romania

Human/Environment Interaction

Eforie Sud, Romania

- Modify
  - The area around the Black Sea has been modified by building resorts (like Eforie Sud), hotels (Hotel Popvici), and a casino (Neptune Casino)

Human/Environment Interaction

Eforie Sud, Romania

- Depend
  - In Eforie Sud, we depend on the beaches and resorts to bring tourism to the area

Human/Environment Interaction

2B Gilman School

Mrs. Olgeirson, Mrs. Hudson

and Mrs. Eppler

Baltimore, USA

Human/Environment Interaction

Baltimore, USA

- The boys in the Gilman Lower School are very environmentally conscious. Through our units of study we connect to protecting our environment. We want our students to recognize issues facing us at school, and also in the larger world.

Human/Environment Interaction

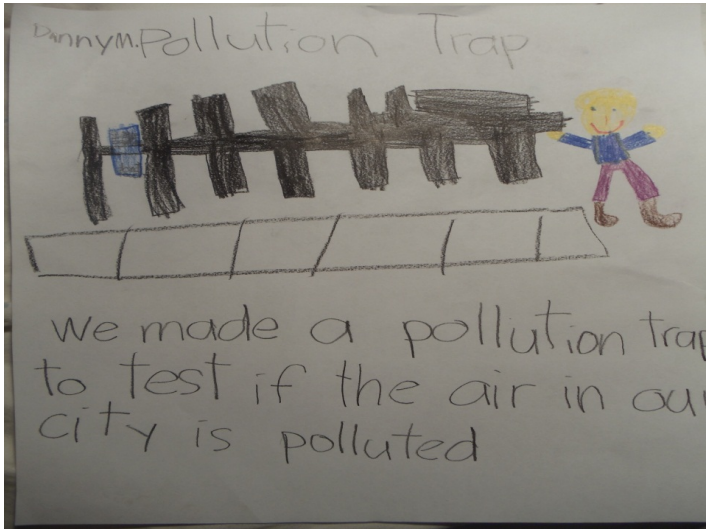
Baltimore, USA

- After learning about air's make-up and its importance to life, we investigated human activities that are causing problems for its health.

- The boys brainstormed ways they might change to help the quality of air we all breathe. Our school is located at the intersection of two very busy roads, with a high level of traffic. Knowing that the emission from these cars is hurting the air, we conducted an experiment to see how bad our air is as a result.

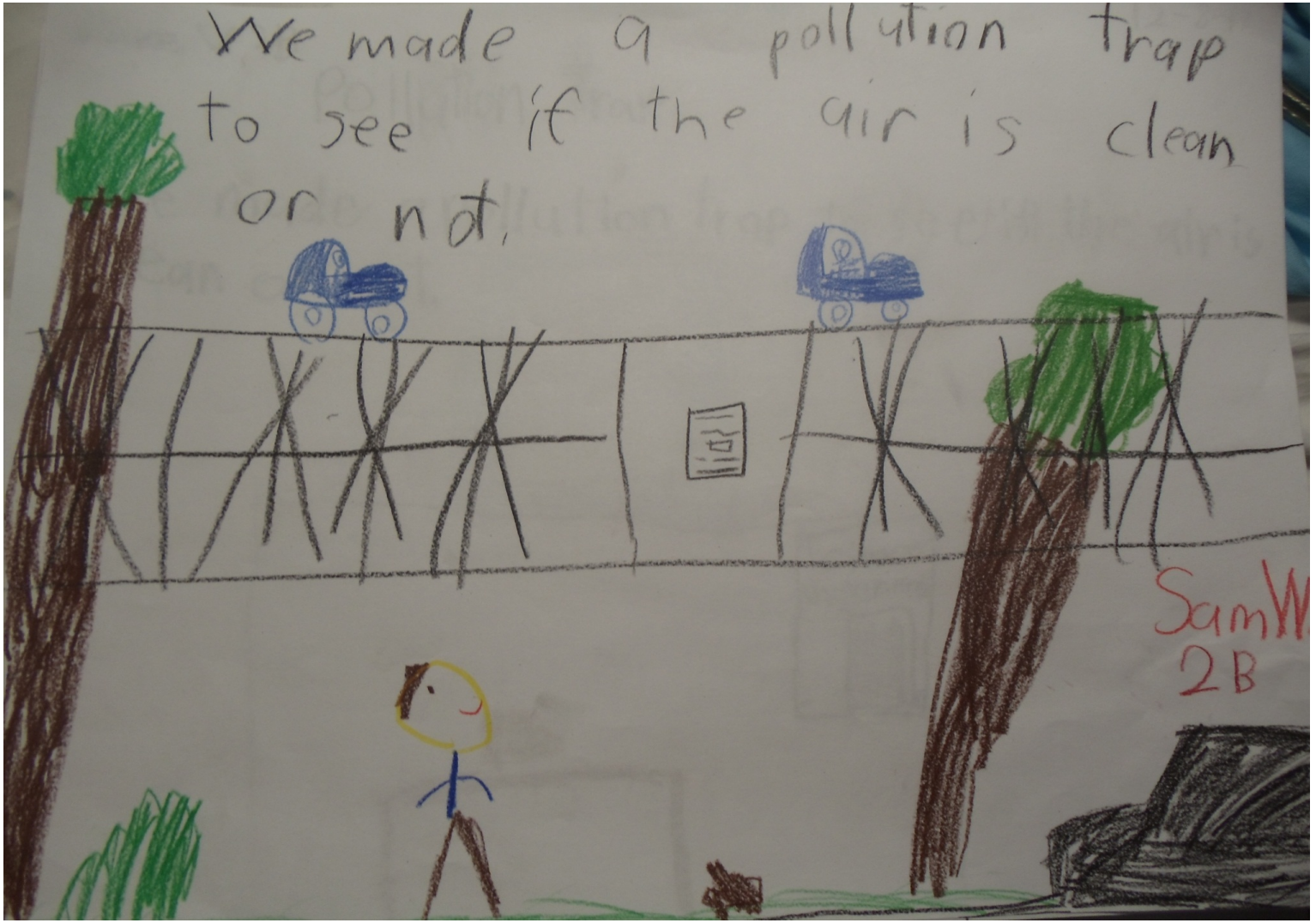
Human/Environment Interaction

Baltimore, USA



Human/Environment Interaction

Baltimore, USA



Human/Environment Interaction

Baltimore, USA

- We do many other activities to strengthen our awareness of the environment. We have set-up rain barrels, composting stations, a garden, solar panels, a green roof, and an environmental club in the Lower School that many of the boys join. We love this planet and want to help sustain it for our lives and those in the future.

Human/Environment Interaction

Baltimore, USA

We decided to check the official air quality report for Baltimore and now raise a flag each day to advise our community of the index. So far we have been able to raise the green flag, indicating the quality of air in Baltimore is very good. We hope we don't see the yellow or red flags, but will know what to do if they are flying.

Human/Environment Interaction

Baltimore, USA

- When the boys were in first grade, we were concerned about litter and the effects it has on our community. The boys made monster litter bags and planted a litter sock to check later in the year for decomposition. Now the boys make every effort to put trash in the proper place and recycle whenever possible.

Human/Environment Interaction

Baltimore, USA

- In the third grade the boys will investigate the properties of water and its importance to life. The students will test the water in the stream that runs through our campus. We will have stream clean-up days, to help ensure the health and beauty of this area. The boys conduct two experiments at home to examine how they use water in their own life. In the first experiment they can use only one gallon of water for a day and they are usually shocked to learn this is definitely not enough water to cover their necessities. They get to predict which would use more water, a shower or a bath, and once they learn how much water is wasted on a daily basis, they will hopefully make every effort to protect and conserve water.

Human/Environment Interaction

Mrs. Gross's, Mrs. Mobile's, and Mrs. Eatherton's 4th grade classes

Cherokee Elementary School

Lake Forest, Illinois, USA

Human/Environment Interaction

Lake Forest, Illinois, USA

- In the fourth grade at Cherokee Elementary, students learn about geography. One area of geography that students focus on is human/environment interaction.
- Students study human/environment interaction by first looking at the community in which they live, and then later evaluating human/environment interaction both nationally and globally.

Human/Environment Interaction

Lake Forest, Illinois, USA

- Depend
  - Lake Forest is located about 30 miles north of Chicago. The east side of Lake Forest is bordered by a major water source – Lake Michigan.
  - We depend on Lake Michigan in several ways:
    - Drinking water
    - Food – fishing is a popular activity
    - Transportation
    - Recreation - boating, swimming, and other water sports

Human/Environment Interaction

Lake Forest, Illinois, USA

- Adapt
  - Illinois is known for having very cold winters due to its northern location and bordering Lake Michigan
  - In the winter, we tend to get what is known as "lake effect" snow
  - Due to the cold temperatures and heavy snowfall starting in November – April, we have had to adapt to our environment in many ways:
    - Warmer clothing
    - Heavy use of snow plows and salt
    - Heaters and fires
    - Ice fishing

Human/Environment Interaction

Lake Forest, Illinois, USA

- Modify
  - Before settlers entered what is now called Lake Forest, our land was made up of prairies and wetlands.
  - Since the settlers began moving in, we have continued to modify the environment around us to fit our needs.
  - Some examples of the ways we have modified the environment around us:
    - Cutting down trees and natural habitats to build roads, airports, train tracks, homes, and businesses
    - Changing the natural beach front of Lake Michigan for recreational needs
    - Recreational activities and littering have added pollution to Lake Michigan