

# ENVIRONMENTAL WARNING!

Among the many dangers threatening our environment, the following are three of the most worrying.

## GLOBAL WARMING

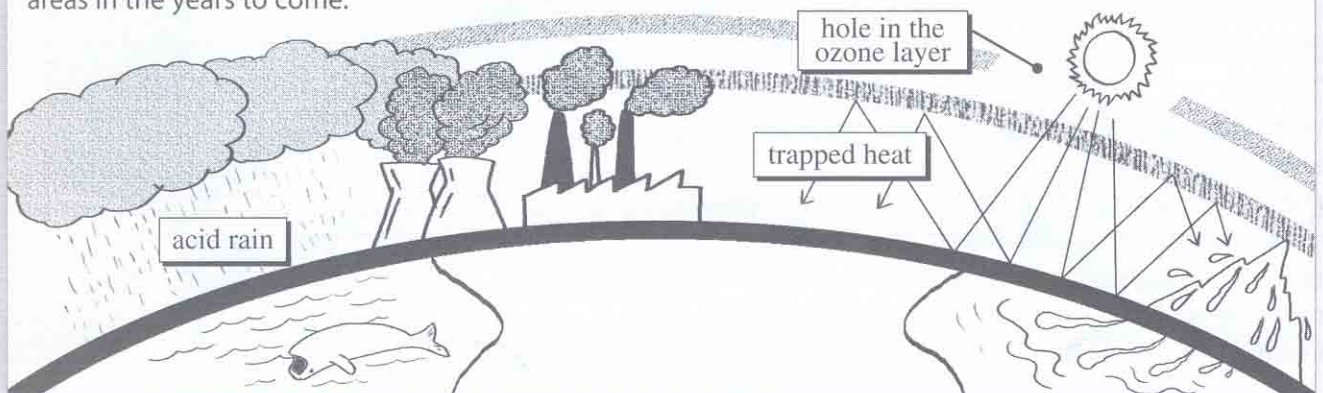
Sunlight reaches Earth through the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere stop some of the sun's heat from escaping. This keeps the Earth warm. Pollution in the atmosphere also traps heat, and the consequence is global warming. The rising temperature of the Earth is having a dramatic effect on the world's climate and natural resources. Polar ice-caps and glaciers are melting and this will cause serious flooding in coastal areas in the years to come.

## ACID RAIN

Smoke and chemicals from cars and factories pollute rain, causing acid rain. Acid rain damages our natural resources, such as lakes, fish and plant life. The planet needs these things to survive.

## OZONE DEPLETION

The upper layer of the Earth's atmosphere, the stratosphere, contains a gas called ozone. The ozone protects the Earth from the sun's harmful rays, but this protective layer is disappearing. The chemicals in some aerosols and fridges create holes in the ozone layer, slowly destroying it.



**1 We all need to work together to protect the environment. Read the list and tick the activities that are good for the environment.**

1. Building lots of houses and factories.
2. Recycling waste to make new products.
3. Pouring chemicals into the sea and rivers.
4. Turning off the tap while we brush our teeth.
5. Using more public transport.
6. Chopping down trees.
7. Having a bath instead of a shower.
8. Using cloth serviettes and towels instead of paper.

**2 Write what you and your family do at home to help the environment.**

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### Let's Investigate

Use an encyclopedia or the Internet. Find out how big the ozone hole above Antarctica is.



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