Worksheet 1 Environmental Pollution

Environmental pollution is a term used to describe all the different ways people pollute their surroundings. People pollute the water with chemicals, they dirty the air with various gases, they damage soils with pesticides and fertilisers and they also pollute their surroundings with litter.

Environmental pollution is one of the major problems facing the human race. The pollution that humans have created has had a catastrophic impact on all other living things that inhabit our Earth. Many species of plants and animals have disappeared and many more continue to disappear very year.

Everybody would like to reduce or even stop all forms of pollution, but the pollution problem is very complex. Many things that cause pollution actually benefit people. The motor car is one of the major causes of air pollution, but would people do without motor cars? Many industries create pollution, but they also employ many people. Using fertiliser and pesticides is important as they help grow the crops that we need, but they also cause pollution.

If we wish to reduce pollution greatly and immediately, then everybody needs to stop using many things that benefit them. Most people are not prepared to do this. This does not mean that pollution can not be reduced but people, governments and countries need to work together.

1.	What is environmental pollution?
2.	What has environmental pollution done to some animals and plants?

3.	What are some of the causes of air pollution?

4. Why would it be difficult to stop or reduce large amounts of pollution quickly?



5. What can you do to reduce pollution?