

CHAMPIONS FOR NATURE

ELECTIVE ADVENTURE



SNAPSHOT OF ADVENTURE



We have three important resources for all living things on our planet: water, soil, and air. We use water to clean ourselves, our dishes, and our clothes. Soil is the resource that allows us to grow food.

The air we breathe goes into our lungs, providing our bloodstream with oxygen. In this Adventure, you'll discover more about the resources of water, soil, and air and put what you discover into use with a conservation project. Knowing more about the resources of the planet will help you make good decisions about conserving the resources of our world.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Discover natural resources.
2. Discover what happens to the wastewater in your community.
3. Investigate soil.
4. Investigate air pollution.
5. Participate in a conservation project.



• [Elective Adventure](#)

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REQUIREMENT 1

Discover natural resources.

Natural resources are resources that come from nature and are used with few modifications. Natural resources include minerals, wood, and water. When you go camping and you have a campfire, the wood you burn



is a natural resource. Some natural resources can be used only once, like burning wood. Other natural resources can be reused, like wood used for buildings.

You can discover natural resources by taking a walk in your community. Look for things in nature that could be used responsibly by people or products that come from nature, like certain building materials.



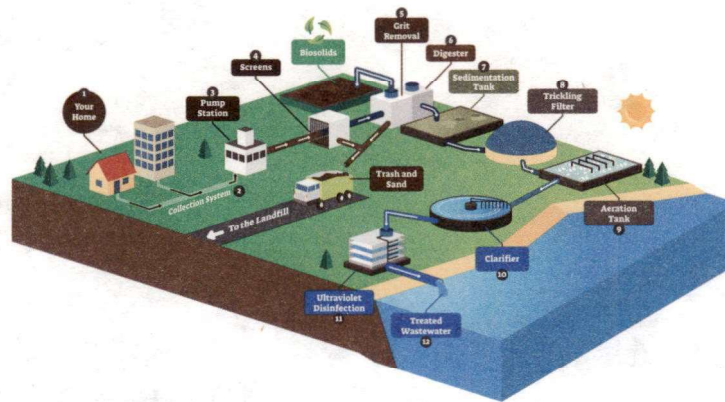
Date

Adult's Signature

REQUIREMENT 2

Discover what happens to the wastewater in your community.

Wastewater is used water. It can come from one source or a combination of sources. Wastewater can come from domestic, industrial, commercial, or agricultural activities; surface runoff; and the sewer system in your town.



Like trash, a community must process wastewater in order to stay healthy. Water is a renewable natural resource. Even when it gets dirty, we can process it and make it clean again. If you live in a town, the wastewater from your home may go into a sewer system that delivers the dirty water to a wastewater treatment facility where it's cleaned and returned to the environment.

Learn how your community collects wastewater, where it goes, and how it is processed and then used again.



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REQUIREMENT 3

Investigate soil.

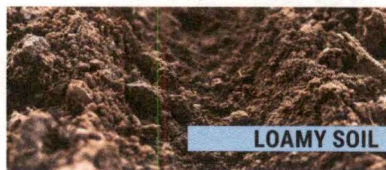
How does dirt clean water?
Soil acts as a filter to protect the quality of water, air, and other resources.

Soil naturally filters water that falls as rain and goes into rivers. These same techniques are used to purify wastewater that comes from houses, cities, industry, and large animal feeding operations.

SOIL INVESTIGATION EXPERIMENT

Materials

- ▶ Clear glass loaf pan or baking pan
- ▶ Powdered drink mix (red or purple in color)
- ▶ Sand
- ▶ Spray bottle filled with water
- ▶ Book or small block of wood



Instructions

1. Make a small pile of powdered drink mix in one end of the clear glass pan.
2. Sprinkle sand over the rest of the pan.
3. Place the end of the pan with the powdered drink mix on top of the book or wood block so the pan is tilted.
4. Using the spray bottle of water, wet the sand, making sure it's really wet. Let it sit for a few minutes, and then wet it again.
5. Carefully lift up the pan and look underneath. What is happening?

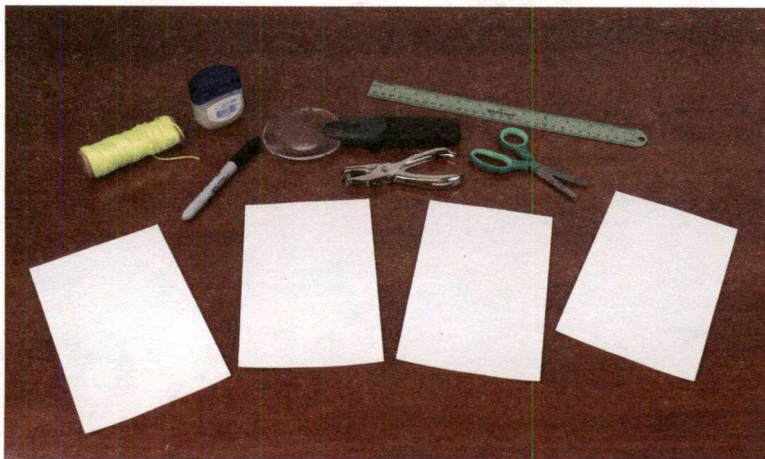


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REQUIREMENT 4

Investigate air pollution.

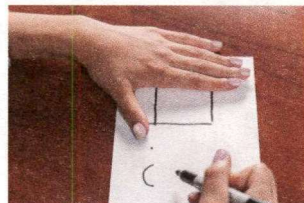


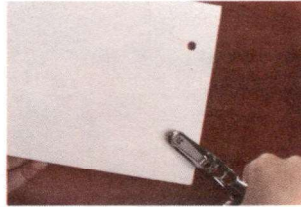
Materials

- ▶ 4 index cards for each Bear Cub Scout
- ▶ Hole punch
- ▶ String
- ▶ Scissors
- ▶ Petroleum jelly
- ▶ Marker
- ▶ Magnifying glass

Instructions

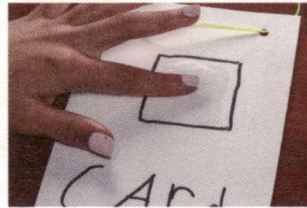
1. Draw a 2-by-2-inch square on each index card, and number each card with the marker.





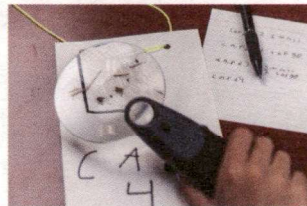
1. Punch a hole in the top corner of each index card and tie a string through each hole.

2. Smear petroleum jelly inside each square, and hang the index cards in different locations outside.



Allow the cards to hang, and observe them for a week.

3. Collect the index cards and examine your results. Using a magnifying glass, count the number of particles stuck to each index card. Record your observations below.



CARD 1

CARD 2

CARD 3

CARD 4



Date

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REQUIREMENT 5

Participate in a conservation project.

Conduct a conservation project with your den, pack, or family.

Here are some ideas:

- ▶ Plant a tree. Select a native species that will do well in your location. Trees help filter the air and water.
- ▶ Add native plants to the landscape of your chartered partner or school. Native plants help the environment by providing resources that local animals and insects need.





- Create an informational flyer or poster that educates your community on how to reduce air pollution or wastewater. With the help of your den leader or adult partner, share your poster or brochure with your friends and neighbors.



Date

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