



Winter Issue * January 2007



Kids 4 Clean Air

We care about kids and clean air. So do our sponsors: Ajo Bikes, Audubon Nature Shop, Cactus Bowl, Fiesta Lanes, Funtastics Family Fun Park, Golf 'n Stuff, Lucky Strike Bowl, Santa Cruz Lanes, and Tucson Bowl. Produced by Pima County Department of Environmental Quality Clean Air Program. Funded by a grant from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

Global Warming is Very Uncool

Global Warming is a problem that is being talked about around the world. Global Warming means that the average temperature of the earth's surface is getting warmer.

The atmosphere is a thin layer of air around the earth. The sun's energy naturally enters the atmosphere in the form of light waves and heats up the earth. Some of that energy warms the earth and then bounces back into space. Under normal conditions, a portion of the outgoing energy gets trapped by the atmosphere. This is good because it keeps the temperature nice and cozy for us to live in.

But, scientists have found that our thin atmosphere is becoming thicker from certain types of air pollution, called greenhouse gasses, mainly carbon dioxide (CO₂). The thicker layer traps more heat, and as a result, the earth is getting warmer. A warmer earth is causing many problems including melting glaciers and mountain snow caps, rising sea levels due to melting ice sheets, heat waves, droughts, floods, and more.

Greenhouse gasses come from what people do like driving cars and trucks, heating and cooling homes, using electricity to power things like computers and televisions, and cutting down forests. Things humans do cause the problem. Things humans do cause the solution too!

Look inside for actions you and your family can take to help.

and Funnies

What's the difference between a horse and the weather?

One is reined up and the other rains down!

Why did the woman go outdoors with her purse open?

Because she expected some change in the weather.

What's the difference between weather and climate?

You can't weather a tree, but you can climate (climb it).

What happens when it rains cats and dogs?

You have to be careful not to step in a puddle.

What do you call it when it rains chickens and ducks?

Fowl (foul) weather.

Jokes from
www.weatherwizkids.com



The Wizard's Corner



We need more than spells and magic to help clean the air. The *Wizard of Air* is here with answers to your every day air questions.

Q: I hear the terms *Global Warming* and *Climate Change* all the time. What's the difference between them?

A: Global Warming refers to the overall increase in average temperature around the surface of the planet. Climate Change refers to more regional, or local conditions such as day/night temperature variations, humidity, rainfall, wind, and storms. Global Warming can lead to regional Climate Change. They

both can cause drastic changes to the environment, which, in turn, affects plants, animals, and us. The solution? *Everyone* does *something*.

Cool Tips to Cool the Earth

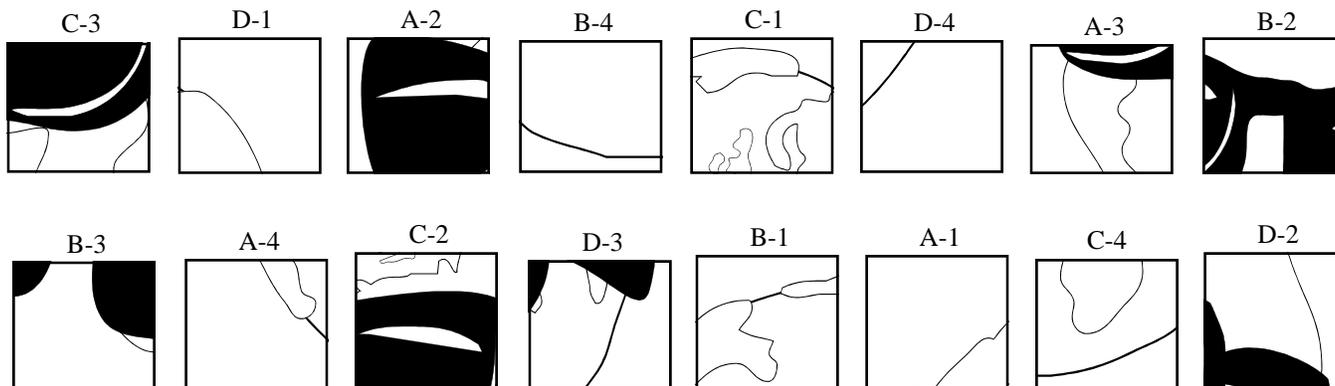
- ◆ Drive less: walk, ride a bike, carpool, take the bus, combine errands into one trip.
- ◆ Conserve Energy: turn off lights, TV, radio when not being used. Replace regular light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs. Use energy efficient appliances. Don't use as much air conditioning in the summer.
- ◆ Use reusables instead of disposable items, like water bottles and cloth shopping bags.
- ◆ Plant trees.
- ◆ Take shorter and/or cooler showers.
- ◆ Create idle-free zones at schools, churches, synagogues, shopping malls.
- ◆ Wear a sweater instead of turning up the heat in your home.
- ◆ Buy locally grown food products.
- ◆ Buy and use recycled paper and other items.

Brain Busters: Earthy Crossword

Answer:

FUN FEATURE: Earthy Puzzle Grid

Draw the contents of each box in the grid below to create an earthy picture.
Use the coordinates (letter and number) to locate the correct position of each piece.



A B C D

1

1

2

2

3

3

4

4

A

B

C

D



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 www.deq.pima.gov • www.AirInfoNow.org
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Special Events: Save the Dates!

Recommended Website

Clean Air Days, March 30-April 1, 2007 ←

This is an annual celebration highlighting bicycling, walking, car-pooling, taking the bus, and more for healthier air and less traffic congestion. **Walk 'N Roll to School Day** is on March 30. The **Clean Air Contest** kicks off on March 31. The **Clean Air Fair, Bike to Zoo Day, and Sun Tran Free Ride Day** are on April 1. For details, click on www.tucsonaz.gov/cleanairdays or call 740-3947.

Earth Days, Saturday, April 21, 2007 ←

The **Tucson Children's Museum Earth Day Festival and Parade** is held downtown 9am-1pm. Call 207-7183 or click on www.saems.org/Earthday/Index.htm. **Tucson Community Earth Day Celebration** is from 11-5 at Reid Park's DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center. Click on www.communityearthday.org/index.html.

Climate Change Kids Site By U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Click on this website for more info on climate change, the greenhouse effect, weather, games, links to even more information, and what you can do to help.
<http://epa.gov/climatechange/kids/index.html>

Brain Busters

Actions Word Search

Look for the words listed below. They are actions to take to help cool the earth.

They might be forward, backward, horizontal, vertical, or diagonal.

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| bike | eliminate | reduce |
| bus | fix | replace |
| carpool | inspire | reuse |
| combine | learn | save |
| conserve | plant | unplug |
| decide | recycle | walk |

v s t y u a b e l x f b r e s
 d u c w n b i n p s i i e t r
 u i n l p u g c o c n k l a w
 s n e e l i m i n a t e r v e
 e s l i u m t n i r e k f x y
 z p a r g b c r e p l a c e d
 f i x e e f g e h o i l j k m
 n r o q p c r d s o r t u t v
 w e x a z g y u z l e a r n a
 d m n b r f r c o s u t h a e
 e l o u p s a e l v s e s l t
 c o n s e r v e h e e a a p r
 i t h l q j r v c i n s v k s
 d q v z t h c o m b i n e r j
 e p o r w e s v t o a v e r w