



Health
Canada

Santé
Canada

SMOG BUSTERS



Join the Smog Buster Team!

Run the
Clean Air
race

PLUS

Take the
Air Quality
Quiz
and
more!

Puzzles and Fun Inside!

Canada



One day Katie and Byron were playing on their front lawn. They had been playing tag, but after a few minutes, Katie sat down on the ground panting.

"It's a bit hard to breathe today," said Katie.

"It is very smoggy," replied Byron. "There must be something in the air that is making it harder for you to breathe."

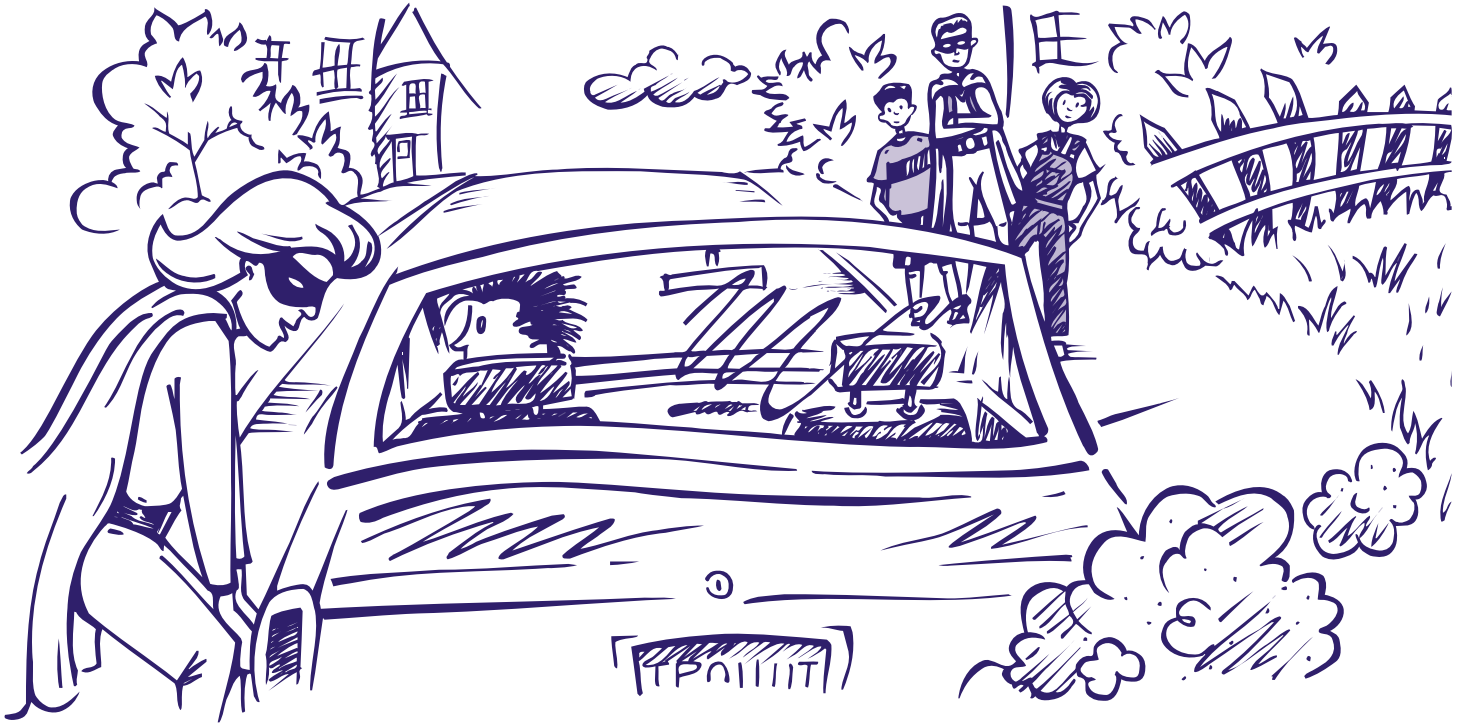
Suddenly, a man and woman appeared from nowhere. He was dressed in a red super hero costume, and she was dressed in a yellow one.

"Greetings!" said the man. "I'm SpectaculAir!"

"And I'm OxyGenius," said the woman. "We're here to help!"

"Are you Super Heroes?" asked Katie.

"Yes, we're the Smog Busters,"



answered SpectaculAir. "We try to make it easier to breathe by fighting pollution!"

"Wow, that's great!" replied Byron. "But, what's pollution?"

"Pollution is the word for all the dirt and smog in the air. Pollution makes it hard for people to breathe, especially on hot days like today," said OxyGenius.

"Where is the pollution?" asked Katie.

"Pollution is outdoors and indoors," said SpectaculAir. "It is in the city and in the country."

"Hey, there's our Uncle Bob," said Katie. The kids pointed to a car parked at the side of the road.

Even though the car was parked, the engine was running and smoke was coming out of the exhaust pipe. The

children walked over to the car with the Smog Busters.

"Hi, Uncle Bob. These are our new friends," said Byron.

"Yeah, and they're the Smog Busters," said Katie. "They fight pollution so that we can breathe more easily in cleaner air!"

"Hello," said Uncle Bob, "is there anything I can do to help?"

OxyGenius smiled and said, "Bob, your car is emitting a lot of smelly smoke. You probably need a tune-up, but you should turn it off when you are not driving. Over time, with less idling, you can reduce pollution and save some gas too."

SpectaculAir said, "Here's an even better idea, Bob. Try walking or riding your bike. If you have to drive, consider taking the bus or car pooling with

other people to cut down on the pollution."

"Hmm, that's not a bad idea!" said Uncle Bob, turning off his car. "I've been thinking lately that I should get some more exercise!"

For the rest of the day, the Smog Busters worked hard with the children. Katie and Byron pointed out lots of things that were causing the air to be smoggy. SpectaculAir and OxyGenius informed lots of people about the activities that cause pollution.

They talked about the exhaust from factories, cars, and trucks. They pointed out that pollution is also caused by simple things like lawn mowers, barbecues, and bonfires. They also said that fumes from chemicals in house-cleaning products were causing indoor air pollution that could affect people's health.

"All of these things can harm the environment and make it hard for people to breathe," the Smog Busters told everyone they met.

Eventually, the Smog Busters had to leave to teach people in other places about pollution. Before they left, they asked Katie and Byron to be Smog Busters too. "But we don't have costumes like you," said Katie.

OxyGenius bent down and looked at Katie and Byron. "You don't need a costume to be a Smog Buster or a Super Hero," she said.

"In fact," added SpectaculAir, "the best Smog Busters and heroes are regular people, just like you."

"But what can we do?" asked Byron.

"We're just kids!" chimed Katie.

"Reduce pollution just like we've been telling people today. Then make sure to tell all your friends and relatives," said SpectaculAir.

"You mean, we can make a difference?" asked Katie.

"You certainly can!" said OxyGenius, and SpectaculAir added, "Every little bit helps."

The Smog Busters flew away into the air, leaving the new Smog Busters to continue the work of reducing pollution. The kids waved at them and for the rest of the day ran around on their lawn pretending that they were SpectaculAir and OxyGenius.



Can you think of things in your town that cause pollution? What can you do to be a Smog Buster and help clean up the air?

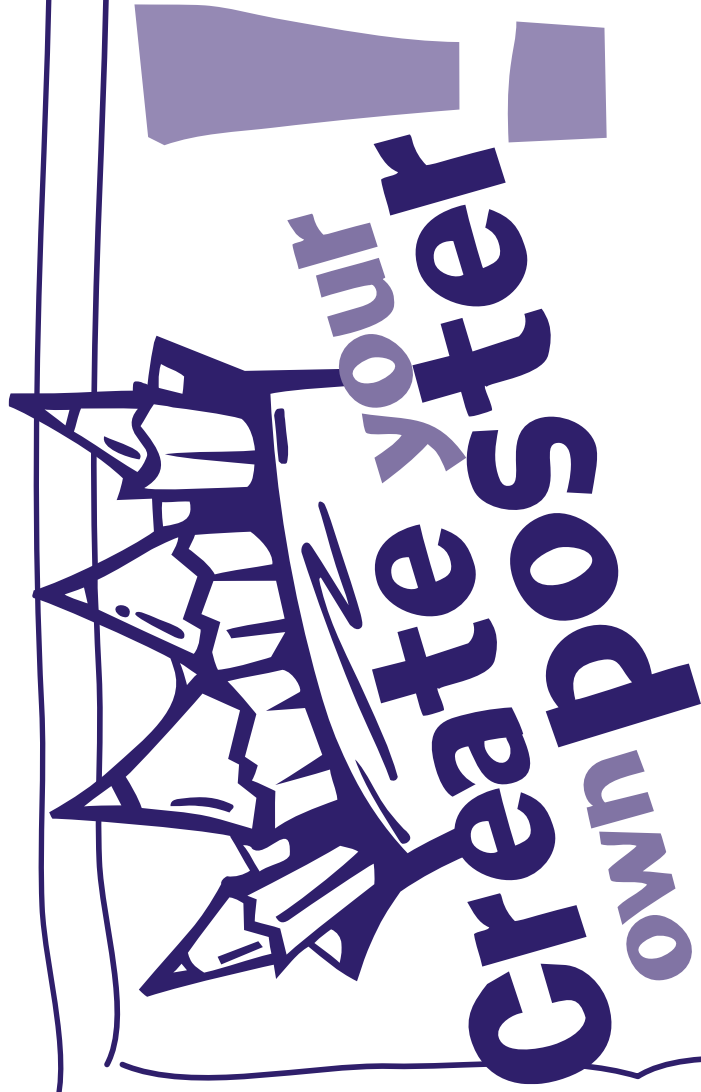
The CLEAN AIR Race

A game for two to four players

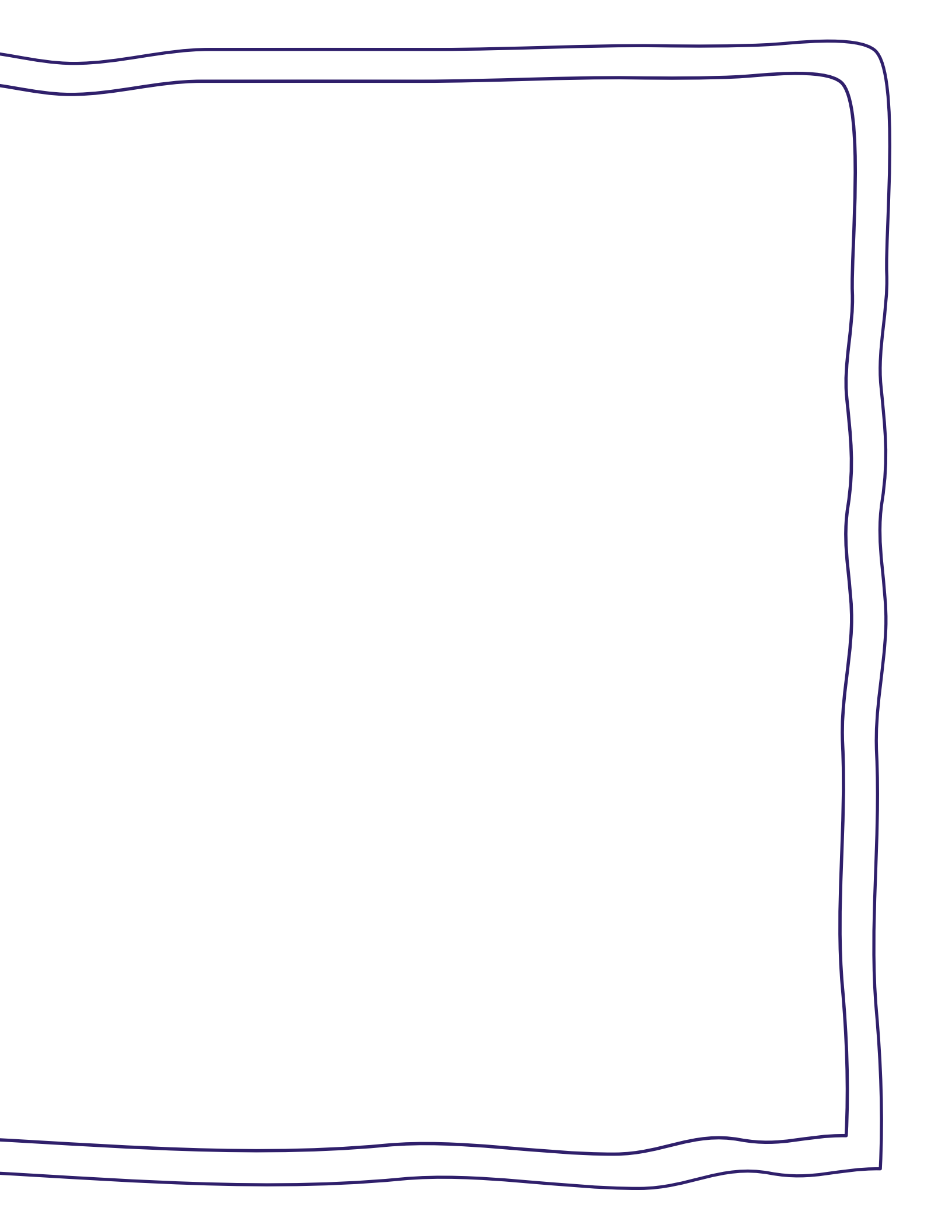
The air is really dirty and there have been a lot of smog alerts lately. Can you stay healthy and help make a difference?

Using pennies or buttons for tokens, place them on the start below. Move the number of spaces you roll on a die and follow the directions in each space on which you land.



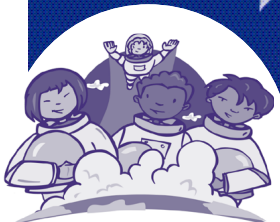


Air pollution can make it hard to breathe for everyone. Use this page to make a poster about ways to reduce air pollution.



Join the

SMOG BUSTERS



Help the Smog Busters in their search for what is causing the pollution.



Factories are a source of air pollution

Cars and trucks are sources of air pollution



Congratulations



Be on the lookout for the words
that have something to do with air pollution.

*Find these
words!*

Words can be found forwards, backwards and diagonally

AIR	Q	O	X	Y	G	E	N
BREATH	U	C	L	O	U	D	S
CAR	A	A	K	U	A	I	R
CLOUDS	L	R	C	Y	N	J	Z
LUNGS	I	A	I	K	I	G	I
OXYGEN	T	D	S	G	O	M	S
QUALITY	Y	B	R	E	A	T	H
SICK							
SMOG							



Try this experiment to find out about...

Particulate Matter

what's that word?

It's a fancy word for all the little things like dust, dirt, soot, smoke that are too small to see.

What you'll need:

- coloured markers
- labels
- white cardboard
- five jar lids
- magnifying glasses

1.



Write the numbers 1 through 5 on the labels, then attach a label to the top of each jar lid.

2.



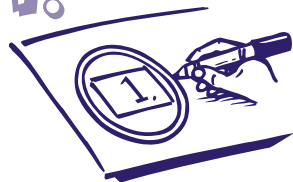
Place the jar lids on a piece of cardboard. Carefully trace around the jar lids, then number these circles to match the numbers on the lids.

3.



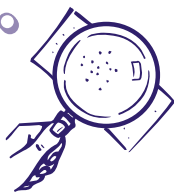
Take the cardboard and lids outside. Place them flat in an open area. (Rain or high winds will spoil the experiment, so keep an eye on the weather reports!)

4.



At the end of the first day, remove one lid, starting with number one. For the next five days take away one lid each day. Are the circles different?

5.



At the end of the fifth day, take away the last lid and look at the circles. If the air is dirty, the circles covered by the low-numbered lids will have more specks of dirt than the others. Use a magnifying glass to count the dirt specks.

Is our air clean or dirty?



Take the **Air Quality Quiz**, then ask other classes, family and friends if they have the **AIR** answers.

1. You and I, no matter how old we are, can do something to help stop air pollution. True False
2. Driving less reduces air pollution. True False
3. Air pollution can be found in both the city and the country. True False
4. Air pollution makes it easier for people to breathe. True False
5. Air pollution travels long distances. True False
6. The same things that create air pollution can also cause the temperature of the earth to rise. True False
7. Riding your bike causes the most air pollution. True False
8. You can learn about the daily air quality report from the radio, television and the internet. True False
9. Chemicals in house-cleaning products and tobacco smoke create indoor air pollution. True False

Puzzle Answers

Maze



Word Search



Quiz

- 5.T
- 4.F
- 9.T
- 8.T
- 7.F
- 6.T
- 1.T

Be a Smog Buster

There are many things you can do to reduce air pollution.

For more information, please contact:

Air Health Effects Division

Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch

Health Canada

(613) 957-1876

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/air

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