GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:
Air and Water Pollution

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Project Summary

- Research the topic of air and water pollution
- Create a newsletter about the topic for an adult audience
- Develop a PowerPoint® presentation for a middle school audience
Objectives

- Learn about environmental and economic issues affecting air and water
- Use technology to inform public audiences about the environment
- Determine the validity of evidence from a variety of sources
- Analyze critical issues on economic growth and environmental protection
- Develop presentational writing skills
- Work cooperatively in teams
Prerequisite Skills

- Intermediate skills using Microsoft® Word and PowerPoint
- Independent research with news journals, statistical reports, and online resources
- Interview skills
- Planning and organizational skills
Materials and Resources

- Microsoft Word and PowerPoint
- Access to the Internet
- Color Printer and TV Monitor
Procedures

- Research topic
- Divide students into teams
- Create PowerPoint presentations and a newsletter in Word
- Make a CD of the final project

We depend on gasoline from oil refineries to provide the fuel for transportation and heating systems. Industry can protect our environment with gas vapor controls and improvements to underground storage tanks.

Left: Photo and caption from student newsletter.
Modifications

For the special needs student:
- Modify reading and research requirements
- Modify length of newsletter or PowerPoint presentation

For the gifted student:
- Have students insert video clips into their presentation
Student Assessment

- Accuracy of information
- Completion of required number of articles or slides
- Opportunities for audience to interact
- Effective use of visuals
- Teamwork
- An editorial voice
- Quality of the presentation

Understand the language of...

**OZONE**

**Arctic** – North Polar Region

**Antarctic** – South Polar Region

**Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC’s)** – A common industrial product used in refrigeration systems, air conditioners, aerosols, solvents, and some forms of packaging. In the upper atmosphere they are transformed by ultraviolet light from the sun into chlorine. This causes the depletion of the ozone layer.

**Polar Vortex** – A distinct column of cold air contained over the poles. Located in the middle to lower stratosphere.

An excerpt from the student newspaper
Benefits for Students

- "Real world" element of the project
- Opportunity to enhance research and writing skills, while learning about issues
- Opportunity to improve their knowledge and use of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
Benefits of Technology

- Very effective for teaching higher order thinking skills
- Students are visual learners
- New dimension of productive learning