

A breath of fresh air

This programme and the two preceding are based on three key conservation objectives:

Precious soil - Clean water - Pure air

These were some of the primary objectives of the joint Global Conservation Programme of the World Scout Bureau and the World Wildlife Fund, a programme accepted unanimously by all Scouting countries at the 24th World Scout Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, July 1973.

These objectives are in keeping with our Joey Scout philosophy: Nature and Discovery, Fun, Self and Helping Others.

The Joey Scouts may wish, as part of their participation in these programmes, to "earn" a reward badge for a blanket. You could choose from the many that the Scout Outdoor Centre has for sale which are not part of the Cub, Scout or Venturer award schemes.

OBJECTIVES: To help the Joeys understand that if we continue to pollute the air a lot of damage will be done. If we think the air around us is limitless we are very wrong. It is only about 15km thick and of this only 5-6km contains enough oxygen for human use. Each and everyone of us can help to look after it.

5 minutes

Opening: Hop, song and break the flag

5 minutes

Game: Suck and blow

This is a tissue and straw relay race. Line up the Joeys in teams. Give each Joey a straw and the person at the front of each team a tissue.

The one at the front has to suck on their straw so that the tissue stays on the end, then turn to the next in line who has to suck the tissue on to their straw, while the first one has to blow to release the tissue from their straw. This continues down the line until the tissue reaches the person at the back, who runs forward to the start. The process begins again and continues until everyone has had a turn.

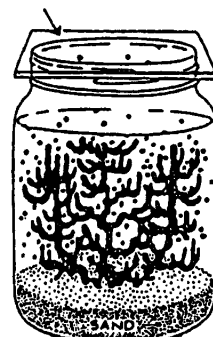
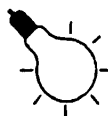
Have a rule that no-one is to run with a straw in their mouth.

5 minutes

Activity: Observe how plants produce oxygen

(From International Show-and-do Conservation Project Kit. Reproduced with permission of the Scout Association of Australia.)

Fill a wide mouthed jar with water and place a water plant in the water. Put a glass lid over the jar and put the jar near a light source. After a while the Joeys will notice that the plant releases bubbles of oxygen. (This is a demonstration of photosynthesis at work.)



PLACE JAR IN DAYLIGHT, OR ARTIFICIAL LIGHT.

5 minutes

Activity: Prove the existence of oxygen in the air

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Talk to the Joeys about gas. Oxygen is a gas. We can't see it, taste it, feel it or smell it but it is all around us.

Light a candle, then place an upside down jar over the candle and see what happens. After a while the candle goes out because it has used all the oxygen in the air.

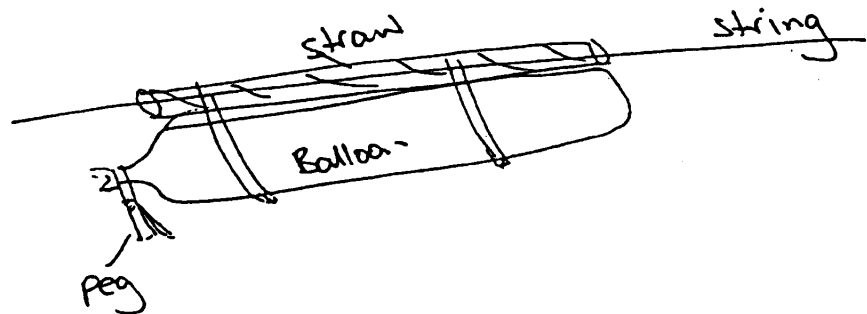
NB: Remind the Joeys about the dangers of playing with matches and candles.

15 minutes

Activity: Balloon rocket

You will need parent helpers for this activity, but it is well worth the effort as the Joeys will love it.

Set up a piece of string about 5 metres in length running along the hall at a slight incline. Give each Joey a balloon, which they blow up and secure with a peg. Tape the balloon very loosely to a straw and thread the straw on to the string. When the peg is released the balloon rocket will fly along the string. Only one Joey at a time can race their rocket. There will be great competition to see whose rocket goes furthest.



15 minutes

Activity: Pollution chart

Give the Joeys some magazines to cut up and ask them to look for pictures of factories, cars, planes, houses, fires, etc. Get them to make a chart of causes of pollution, similar to the one on the next page. While they are cutting out the pictures have them thinking about what pollution is. What do we do each day that is causing pollution? How can we help stop it? Talk about noise pollution. Make the chart big, colourful and very decorative. It could go into your conservation corner.

5 minutes

Activity: Look at experiment 1 - plant in water

It is important in Scouting not only that we learn by doing and observing, but also that we are able to communicate our knowledge to others and help spread conservation awareness even at Joey age. Hence the emphasis on practical experiments: "see and they understand".

Closing: Hop, and lower the flag**Prayer**

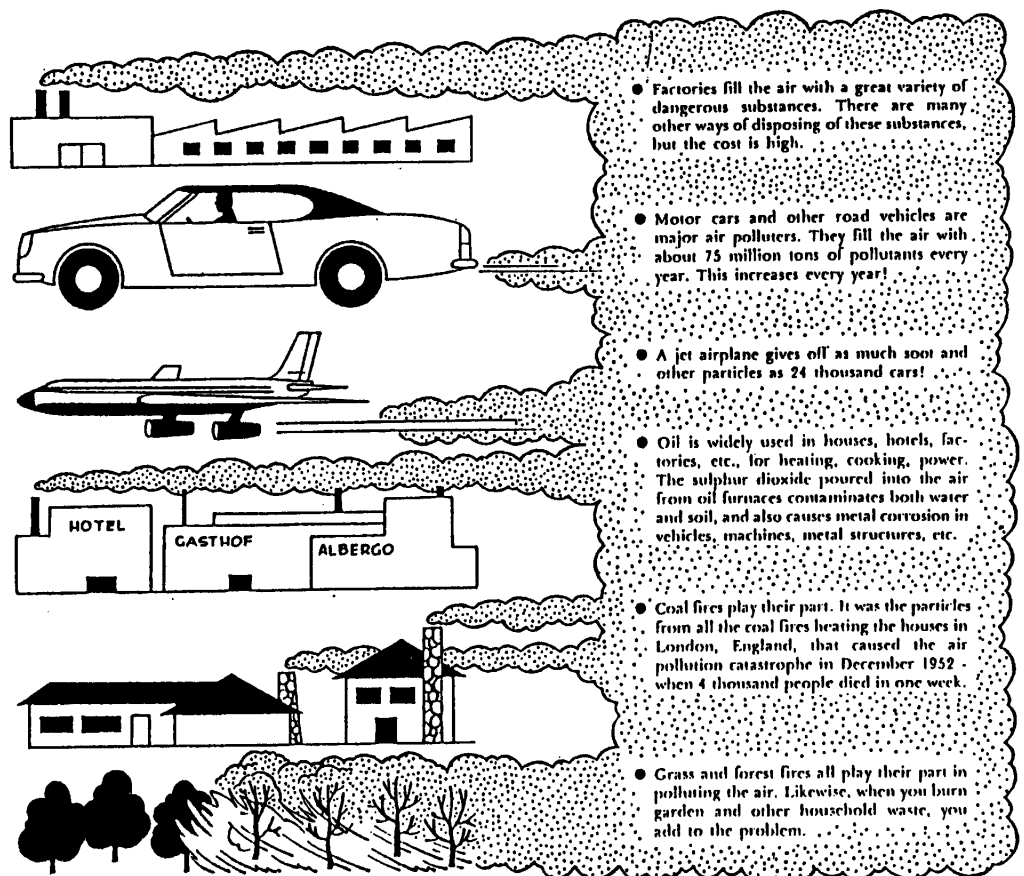
Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the air we breathe,
 Thank you for the life so sweet,
 Thank you for the music we hear,
 And your world, with care I promise to treat.

Amen.

RESOURCES

You will need tissues, straws, jars, a water plant, jam lids, a candle, string, balloons, pegs, magazines and cardboard.

Pollution chart**Main Causes of Air Pollution**

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