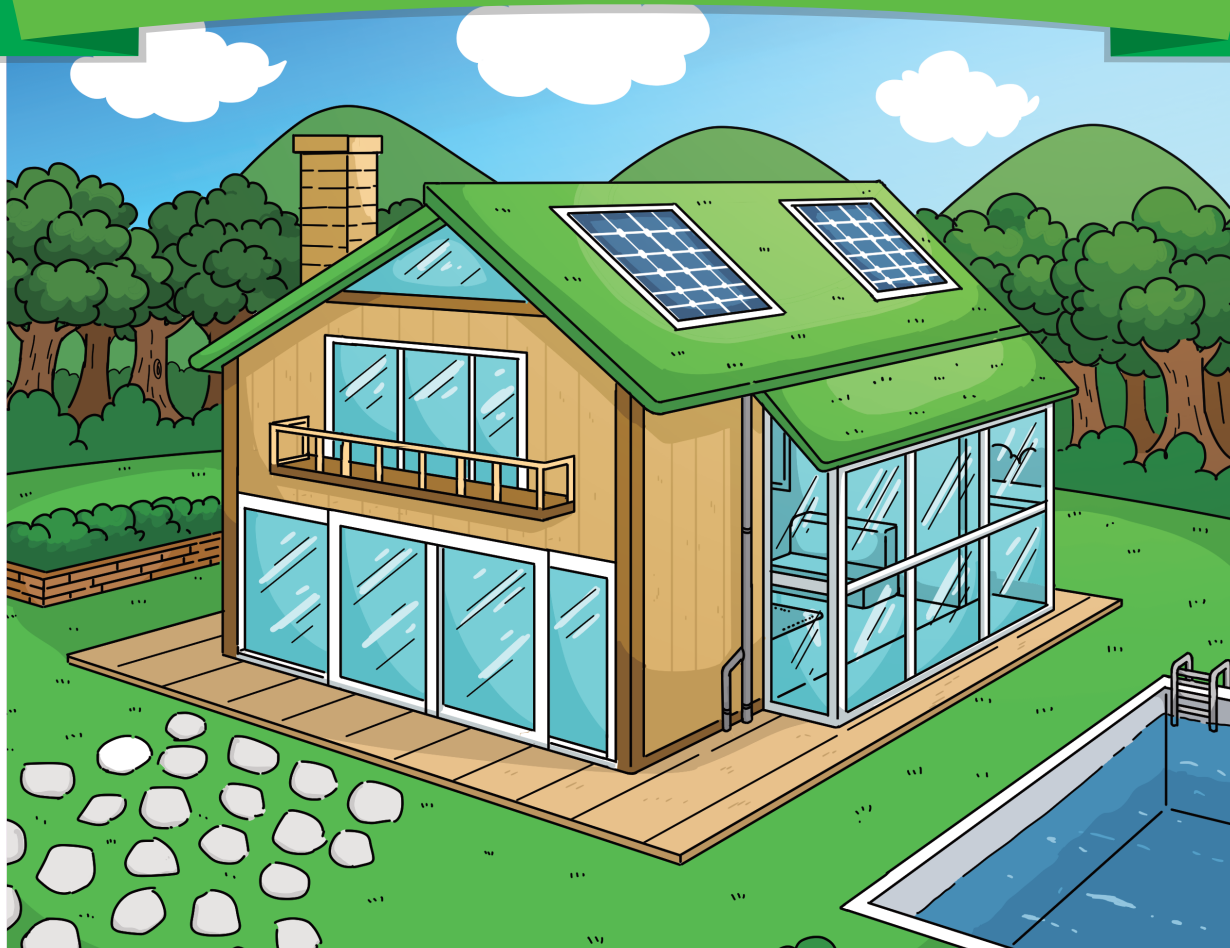
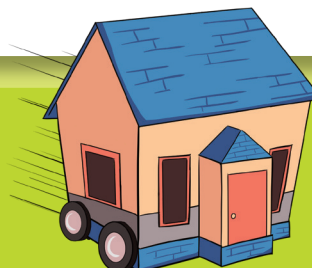


READING & SPEAKING



Green Homes



Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Date: _____

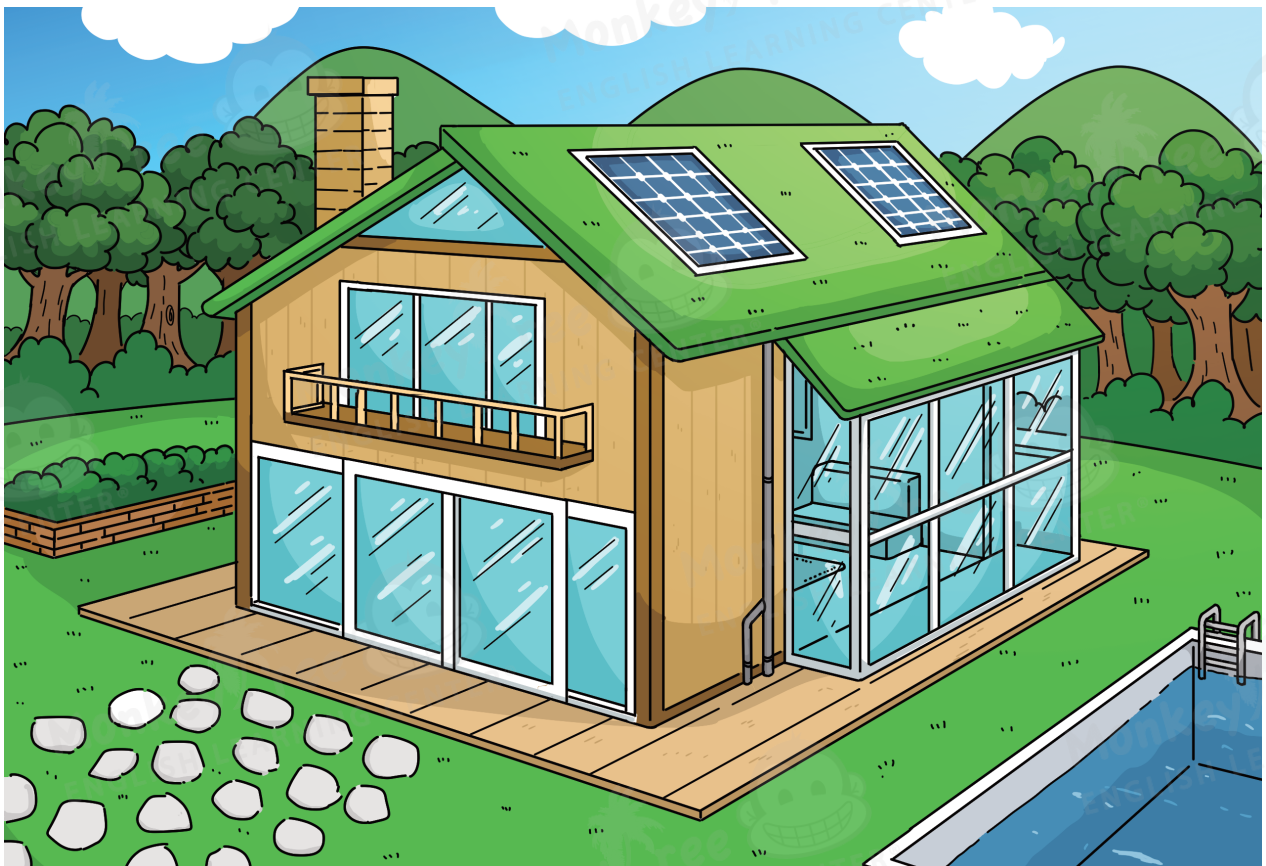
SECTION 1

Part A. Let's Read

Green Living !

Kate is very excited as they have a special guest in their class today. Dr Jenkins, an environmental specialist from America, is visiting their school to speak to the students about green homes and how they are used to help the environment.

A green home uses less energy, water, and natural resources than a standard home. It also creates less waste and is healthier for the people living inside. Dr. Jenkins explains that green homes focus on the efficient use of energy, water, and building materials. They do so by using environmentally friendly and recycled building materials. These homes may include a sustainable energy source, such as solar power. Windows and doors can be placed in a way that allows more natural light into the home, thus needing less electricity for lights.



While Kate is very interested in all of the amazing ways in which green homes work, she is still confused about why more and more people are building them.

Dr.Jenkins explains that some of the most important benefits that green buildings offer are to our climate and the natural environment. Not only can green buildings use less water, energy, and natural gas, but they can also create their own energy and increase biodiversity. Green buildings offer a number of financial benefits, including cost savings on utility bills and construction.

What Kate really wants to know is how she can make changes in her own home to make it more green. Dr.Jenkins suggests starting by making small changes, such as switching to toxin-free cleaning products, watering your plants with used water, and eliminating plastic in your home by using glass or tin containers.

If every one of us makes a few small changes in our homes and lives, we will eventually be able to make a big change for the environment. What positive changes can you make in your life to help the environment?



Part B. Let's Talk

Do you think it would be nice to live in a green home? Why or why not?

What negative effects do humans have on the environment?

How do you think you can change things in your home to make it more green?

Do you think it is important for us to help the environment? Why or why not?

Part C. My New Words

Write each word and its definition. Next, write a sentence using the new word.

1

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

2

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

3

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

4

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

5

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____
_____Sentence: _____

6

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____
_____Sentence: _____

Part D. Vocabulary Check 1

Find new words in the text that have similar meanings to the following words.

1. power

2. sun

3. gains

4. effect

Part E. Vocabulary Check 2

Write a word that matches each of the following definitions.

1

Someone who knows a lot about a specific subject



2

Something that exists in nature and is not made by humans



3

When something that has been used is treated so that it can be used again



Part F. Challenge Yourself!

Complete the sentences by filling in the blanks with the words from the word box.

resources • climate • reduce • biodiversity • materials

1. The ocean has the highest level of _____ of all environments.
2. Pollution is causing the Earth's _____ to change over time.
3. Turning lights off when not in use can _____ your electricity bill.
4. The recycling center will reuse old _____ to make new products.
5. There are lots of art _____ available at my school.

SECTION 2

Part A. Let's Learn

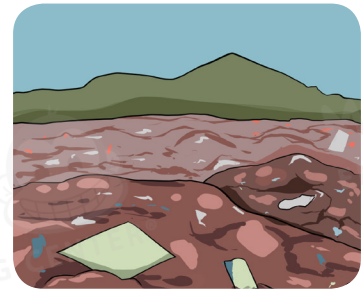
Making your Home Green !

Let's learn about some interesting ways that you can make your home more environmentally friendly!



House plants can have many positive impacts in your home. Plants remove toxins from the air and increase oxygen levels. Studies have also shown that people with house plants are less likely to experience signs of dry skin, colds, sore throats, and dry coughs.

Reduce your food waste by creating a compost bin in your home. Making compost keeps food scraps and yard waste out of landfills where they take up space and release strong greenhouse gases. By doing this, you can decrease your carbon footprint.



Using reusable versions of your daily products can have a big positive effect on the environment and can also save you money. Reusable snack bags, water bottles, and metal straws are good examples of products we can start reusing on a daily basis.

Water is one of our most valuable resources, so it's important to use it responsibly. Remember to turn the tap off while you brush your teeth, don't let the tap run while washing dishes, and only use dishwashers or do laundry when you have a full load.



Part B. Let's Check

Refer to the text, *Making your Home Green!* Then, read the statements and tick the correct box to tell whether each one is true or false.

	True	False
1 Using plastic bottles once is helpful to the environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 House plants can improve your health.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Compost bins will make landfills bigger.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 You should wash only one towel at a time.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 House plants decrease oxygen levels in your home.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 It is important to help the environment as much as you can.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

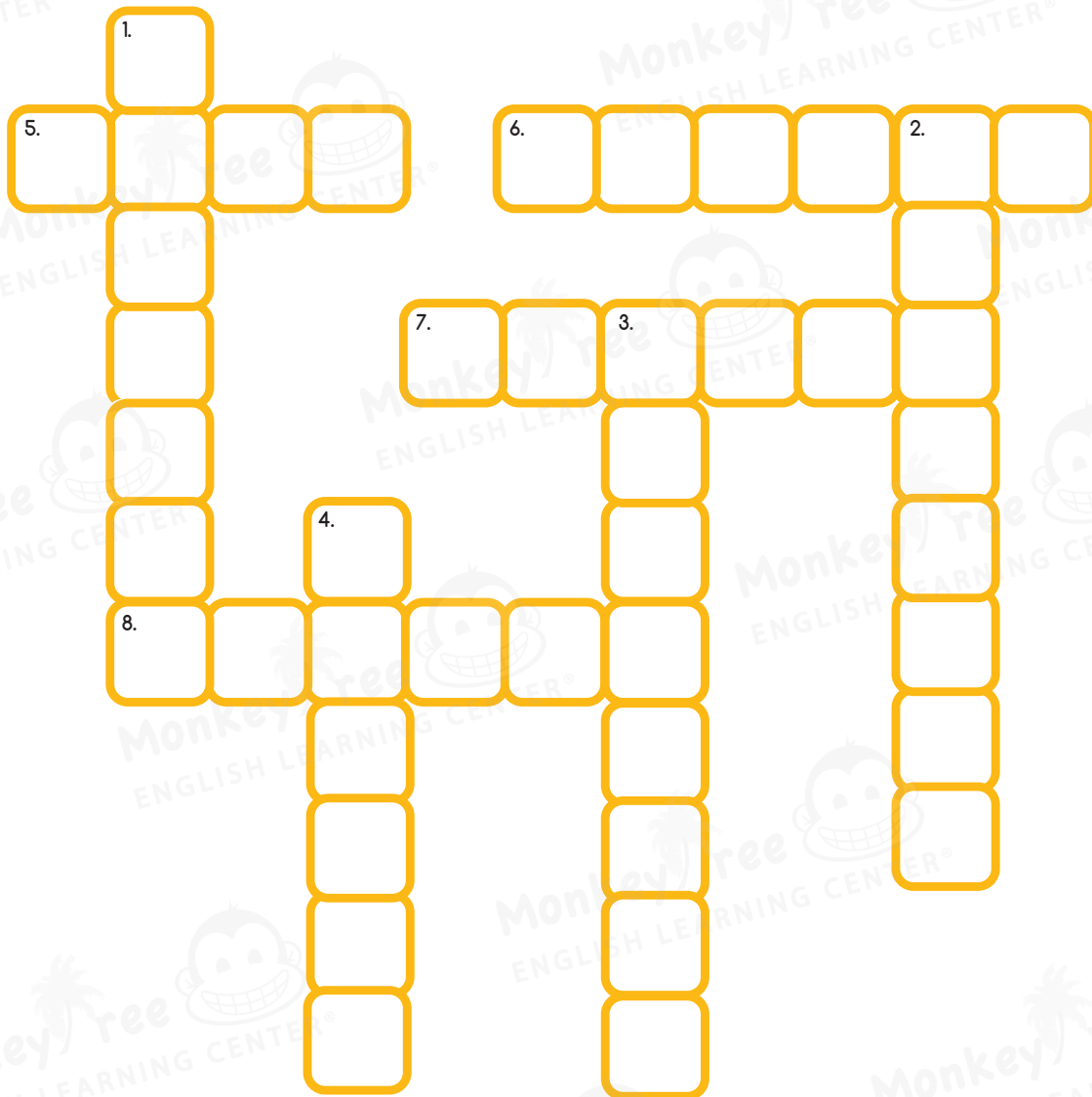
Part C. Multiple Choice Questions

Refer to the reading, *Green Living!* Circle the letter next to the correct answers.

- How do green homes help the environment?
 - They use less energy
 - They can improve health
 - They create less waste
 - All of the above
- Which of the following is a sustainable energy source?
 - Coal
 - Oil
 - Solar power
 - Natural gases
- You can eliminate plastic by...
 - Using plastic bags.
 - Using glass containers.
 - Using plastic water bottles.
 - All of the above
- How can you make your home more eco-friendly?
 - Using toxin-free products
 - Reusing used water
 - Turning lights off
 - All of the above

Part D. Challenge Yourself !

Refer to the reading, *Making your Home Green!* and use the clues to complete the crossword puzzle.



Down

1. A mixture of plants and food that can be added to soil.
2. When something is good or useful.
3. Something that can be used more than once.
4. A gas found in air and water that we need to live.

Across

5. When something hurts or is very painful.
6. What remains after you have used something.
7. Thin tubes of plastic used to drink through.
8. Something that is bad for you and can make you sick.

Part E. Language Focus

The Past Tense

- ★ We use the **past tense** to talk about things that have already happened.

Example: What did you do yesterday?
Yesterday, I watched a movie.

- ★ To change most verbs into the **past tense**, we add '-ed'.

Example: walk ➤ walked

- ★ However, some verbs change form in the **past tense**.

Example: go ➤ went
buy ➤ bought

Let's practice! Use the words and pictures to ask and answer questions in the past tense.



1. See



2. Cook



3. Buy



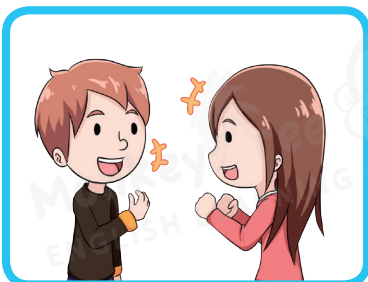
4. Read



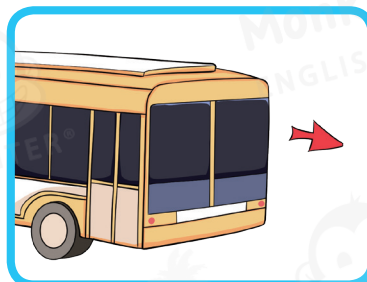
5. Paint



6. Eat



7. Talk



8. Go



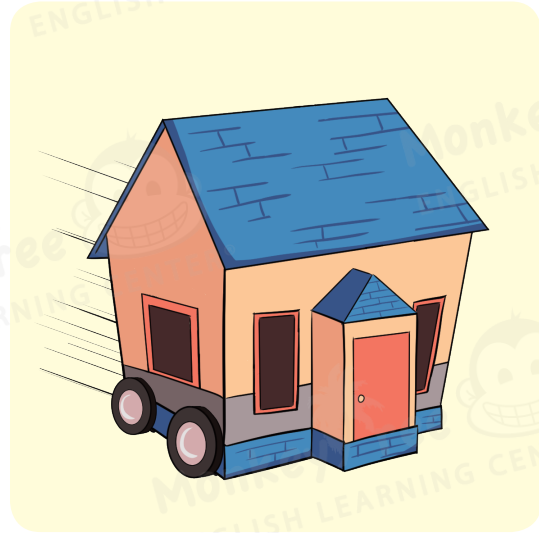
9. Write

SECTION 3

Part A. Let's Read

Tiny Home, Big Changes!

In recent years, more and more people around the world have been changing the way in which they live in order to lead a more eco-friendly life. One way in which they have done this is by downsizing their living spaces from big homes with big lawns, to smaller homes that decrease their carbon footprint. These homes are referred to as tiny homes.



Tiny homes come in all shapes, sizes, and forms, but they all allow simpler living in a smaller, more efficient space. The most popular reasons for living in tiny homes include environmental concerns and financial savings.

Tiny homes need fewer building materials to build than bigger homes, thus requiring less natural resources and allowing for the use of recycled materials that wouldn't be available when building a larger home. They also offer a reduced energy-use, as they have fewer electrical appliances and are a lot easier to keep warm or cool due to the smaller size. Another benefit is that people with tiny homes tend to spend more time outdoors, thus using less electricity inside the home. All of these aspects also work towards reducing money spent on electrical bills and building costs.

Many people cannot imagine living in the limited space offered by a tiny home, but maybe the environmental and financial benefits will prove to people that bigger is not always better.

Part B. Let's Talk

Would you like to live in a tiny home? Why or why not?

Do you think Hong Kong homes are like tiny homes?

Why do you think people like living in tiny homes?

Do you think tiny homes make a big difference to the environment?

Part C. Let's Learn the Skill

Proposition and Support

- ✓ A **proposition** is a writer's opinion.
- ✓ The writer wants the reader to agree with their opinion.
- ✓ In order to make the reader agree with the **proposition**, the writer needs to provide **support** (reasons and information) to convince the reader.

Part D. Let's Practice

Read and complete the following activities.

1. Read each of the following sentences. If the writer provides sufficient support for the proposition, put a tick. If sufficient support is not given, put a cross.

- a. The cheetah is a very fast runner, reaching speeds of 120km/h.
- b. My mother is a great artist. She once won a painting competition.
- c. Lions are much scarier than tigers.
- d. Dogs help humans. They can be trained to find lost people.
- e. My little sister is much cuter than all the other children in her class.
- f. Chocolate is the best ice cream flavor. It's better than strawberry.
- g. Paris is a great city. Everyone says so.
- h. My brother is naughty. He never does his homework.

☐
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2. As a class, discuss whether the following statements are facts or opinions. Write **F** for fact and **O** for opinion.

- a. Hong Kong is the best city in the world.
- b. Green homes are the best homes to live in.
- c. It is very hot in the desert.
- d. Dogs make better pets than cats.
- e. Polar bears live in the North Pole.

☐
☐
☐
☐
☐

Part E. Let's Find the Proposition and Support

Refer to the reading, *Tiny Homes, Big Changes!*, to help you complete the following questions.

1. Read the title and look at the image. What do you think the writer's proposition will be?

2. Read the text. Find and underline two propositions and write them below.

a.

b.

3. What support does the writer give for the proposition that tiny homes can help people save money?

a.

b.

c.

4. Do you agree with the proposition that tiny homes can have many benefits for the environment? Why or why not?

Part F. Challenge Yourself!

Write a word from the text, *Tiny Homes, Big Changes!*, that matches each definition. Then, find the words in the word search below.

Working well without wasting time or energy



Machines used in your home, such as a fridge, microwave, or oven



Outside, rather than in a building



Small in amount or number



Liked or enjoyed by a large number of people



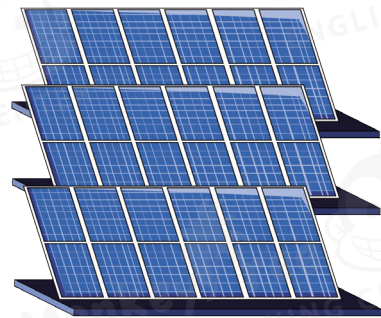
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T	O	A	G	Y	E	P	E	T	Y	G	C	C
H	W	S	K	G	V	Y	C	D	F	T	Y	H
E	E	E	R	Y	E	G	T	R	T	F	F	Y
F	H	M	A	U	N	A	L	O	A	V	L	L
F	R	G	K	V	A	B	A	I	H	Z	K	I
I	S	R	A	L	E	T	I	S	I	S	G	M
C	N	H	T	U	E	S	S	J	A	H	T	I
I	E	V	O	U	T	D	O	O	R	S	O	T
E	V	R	A	D	L	F	L	V	C	L	F	E
N	T	E	D	C	E	J	K	O	I	P	P	D
T	V	T	D	E	L	I	C	U	A	U	S	S
P	O	P	U	L	A	R	M	O	N	S	S	C

Part A. Let's Learn

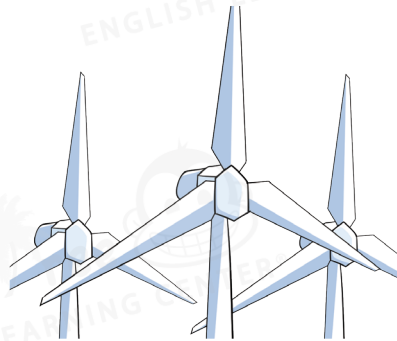
Sustainable Energy Sources !

Let's learn about some sustainable energy sources!

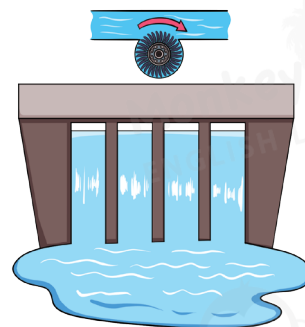
- Solar energy is energy that we can get from the Sun. We use solar panels to collect this energy from the Sun and convert it into electricity. This source of energy does not create pollution like coal and oil does.



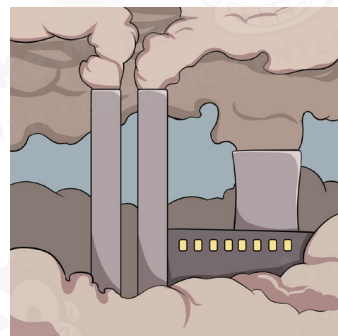
- Wind energy is harnessed by a machine called a wind turbine. These are tall towers topped with blades. When wind causes the blades to spin, they provide power to a machine called a generator, which produces electricity.



- Hydropower is a very popular energy source generated from moving water. The force of the water will turn the blades of a turbine which in turn spin an electric generator. As long as water is flowing, the generator is able to provide electricity.



- Biomass energy is created by converting material made by plants and animals into energy. These materials are burned to create heat and create energy. This source of energy can, however, create a lot of air pollution if not controlled properly.



Part B. Let's Talk

Which of these energy sources do you think is the best? Why?

Have you seen any of these energy sources before?

Do you think it is good to create energy by burning biomass?

Part C. Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the letter next to the correct answers.

1. Which source of energy may lead to more air pollution?
 - a. Solar energy
 - b. Hydropower
 - c. Biomass energy
 - d. Wind energy
2. Which statement about hydropower is untrue?
 - a. It comes from moving water
 - b. It is sustainable
 - c. It creates pollution
 - d. It is widely used
3. What can be used to create biomass energy?
 - a. Wood
 - b. Garbage
 - c. Plants
 - d. All of the above
4. Which source of energy uses sunlight to create electricity?
 - a. Biomass energy
 - b. Solar energy
 - c. Hydropower
 - d. Wind energy
5. Which one of the following pictures shows a hydropower station?

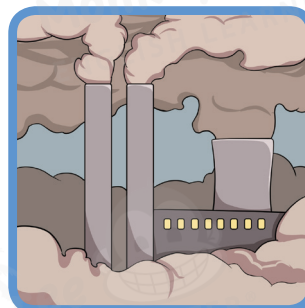
a.



b.



c.



d.



Part D. Written Response Questions

Answer the following questions in full sentences.

1. What effect can biomass energy production have on our planet?

2. Can people use any of these sustainable energy sources in their homes?

3. Do you think more people should be using sustainable energy sources?
Please explain.

Part E. Let's Spell

Listen carefully to the words and write them on the lines below.

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____

7. _____ 8. _____

Part F. Let's Present

You will create your own green home. Think about the different things that you will build/do in your home to make it more eco-friendly. Draw pictures and diagrams to show your ideas. Finally, present your green home to your class.

How does your green home help the environment?

What will you use to build your green home?

Do you think people would like to live in your green home? Explain.

Try This at Home!

Part A. Let's Match

Match the words to the definitions.

1

guest

2

eliminate

3

lawn

4

coal

To remove or get rid of something

A hard black material used to produce heat

A person who is visiting somewhere

An area of ground covered in grass

Part B. Let's Check

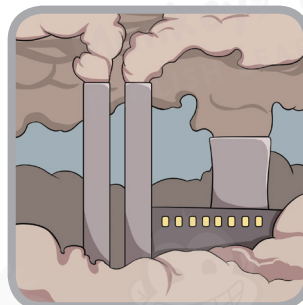
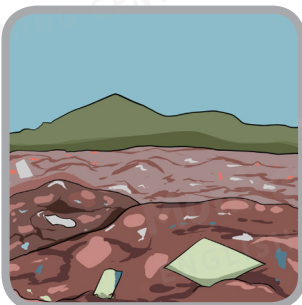
Match the words to the correct pictures.

blades

pollution

landfill

spin



READING & SPEAKING

LEVEL C UNIT 8

Progress Report

☐ Lesson 1 _____

☐ Lesson 2 _____

☐ Lesson 3 _____

☐ Lessons 4+ _____

Teacher Signature : _____

