

Project
Keep our environment clean.

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Today people all over the world are worried about what is happening to the environment because of modern industry and agriculture, and the need more and more energy. Newspapers and magazines write about water pollution, land pollution and air pollution.

“All woods are home to animals
So, we must behave like guests
We can only look and never touch
The birds and rabbits nests”

The old days were not as good as some people think they were.

The cities of the 19th century were dirty. There was a lot of pollution from horses and other animals. And people were careless about throwing out. Communicable diseases were a big problem. There was malaria, cholera and typhoid. A lot of children died when they were very young. While there were no cars to kill people, there were many fatalities and injuries caused by runaway horses.

Today many parts of the world are crowded. People live in big cities and much of our waste, especially waste from factories, electric power stations, the chemical industry and the heavy industry are very dangerous. Now factories are putting waste materials which are poisons into the rivers. This waste adds mud to the rivers and speeds up the process, by which a lake or a river becomes useless for shipping. Fish dies in the lakes, rivers and seas, forest trees die too. Much of this waste goes into the air and is carried by wind for great distances.

Pollution is the greatest danger. Today many lakes and rivers are in danger not only in our country, but in other countries too. The Yarra river in Australia was a pretty beautiful place many years ago. All has changed. Factories have appeared in each side of the river and people sitting beside the river throw their endless tins and papers into it. Nothing can live or grow in this polluted water. And it is great danger not only for fish, but for people too, especially for children, because swimming in such water is impossible because of the danger to their health. But there are pollution problems not only into rivers and lakes but in seas and oceans too. If a ship loses some of the oil in the water or trash from the ship is put into the oceans, the water becomes dirty. A lot of fish and many birds die because of the polluted water. The ocean is nearly dead. If nothing is done about it, one day nothing will be able to live in the oceans. And fish may also move to another part of the ocean.

And there is another danger too. In future they won't be useful for navigation.

The Earth is our home. We must take care of it for ourselves and for the next generation. Each of us must do everything possible to keep the land, air and water clean. If you see rubbish on the ground, put it in a rubbish bin. We mustn't throw tins, papers and other things into the rivers and lakes and we must take care of birds and animals too.