



Making a Food Web



Cut around the following name and pictures to build your own food web. Remember to layout a draft food web first before gluing them permanently onto page 14 of your workbook.



Pollution



Pollution is defined as **contaminants** that enter the environment and cause damage or negative changes. Pollution can include chemicals such as oil, CFC's, radioactive compounds or even energy like heat, light and sound. These contaminants are referred to as **pollutants**. There are many different kinds of pollution and three key ones are outlined below.

Air Pollution

This is when **particulates** or other harmful materials are released into the atmosphere. Our atmosphere is vital to the survival of all living things and is what makes our planet **habitable**. It has been estimated that seven million people die each year from air pollution related illness and disease. As well as death, air pollution also causes breathing difficulties, heart disease, asthma, stroke and lung cancer. Air pollution also affects plants and animal growth, and can destroy habitats through the production of acid rain. **Smog** is a combination of soot, smoke and sulfur dioxide mainly from vehicles, burning fossil fuels and factory fumes. Not only this but it can form ground level ozone which is quite toxic to all living organisms. This combination of **emissions** creates a thick smoky fog that covers cities and contributes to the major health problems stated above. Air pollution is a worldwide issue as it is common for the toxic particulates to be produced in one place but be shifted by the winds to another location and create smog or acid rain. Some countries have very strict rules and guidelines about air pollution but still suffer its effects because of what the neighbouring countries are doing. Air pollution leads to **global warming** and the **greenhouse effect** as well as the destruction of the **ozone layer**. Air pollution from vehicles and factories (that burn fossil fuels) comes in the form of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides that mix with water in the atmosphere and produce acid rain. This in turn damages plants, animals and pollutes waterways. CFC's (which are prohibited) from air conditioners, aerosol cans and refrigeration systems, all cause damage to the ozone layer in the **stratosphere**. This area is responsible for reducing the amount of damaging **UV radiation** that makes it to the Earth's surface and would otherwise be harmful to all life on Earth.

