

APES Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP Environmental Science! My summer goal for you is to make you aware of why this subject is so important and how prevalent it is in your daily life.

Our environment is a dynamic one and we face many serious environmental issues such as concerns about endangered species, pollution, acid rain, overpopulation, ozone depletion, climate change, radioactive and toxic waste disposal, energy issues, disappearing habitats, overflowing landfills, food production and many others. Here are the major topics that APES covers:

- **Earth Systems and Resources**
- **Ecosystems and Biodiversity**
- **Human Population**
- **Land and Water Use**
- **Energy Resources and Consumption**
- **Air Pollution**
- **Water and Land Pollution**
- **Global Climate Change**

The assignment below is due the first day of school in Google Classroom:

1. Review the course subjects listed above. Choose one as your focal point and do some research on current issues society is facing relating to the concept. Next, create an educational poster/ infographic on an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper. Make sure your poster explains the problem and solutions in a way that is eye catching, easy to understand, and thorough. (All artwork needs to be drawn by hand in color and not printed from the internet.)
2. Environmental Surveys / Ecological Awareness Directions: **Complete the three footprint calculators below and create a Word document to compile your results. For each footprint create a short summary paragraph describing what you have learned about yourself and write an explanation from your perspective of why your results are a good or a bad thing.**
 - Go to: <http://www.h2oconserve.org/> or <http://www.gracelinks.org/824/water-program> and complete the water footprint calculator. Take a screen shot of your footprint results and add that to your Word document.
 - Go to: <http://www.nature.org/greenliving/carboncalculator/index.htm> and find your individual carbon footprint. Take a screen shot of your footprint results and add that to your Word document.
 - Go to: <http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/calculators/> and find your ecological footprint. Take a screen shot of your footprint results and add that to your Word document.
3. **Take a picture** of some type of pollution that you see over the summer. Print it out. Explain what the picture is showing and how it makes you feel and how it can be corrected.
4. **Bring in a label or a picture of a label** from a product made from recycled material (at least partially). Explain what it means to be “recycled” and why recycling is important.
5. **Research an organization** that is focused on making the world a better place. Explain what their mission is, what they do to accomplish their mission, and what kind of impact they have had.

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