

Science Year 4 – Nature and the Environment

**Key questions:**

* **What is the balance of nature?**
* **How do environmental changes affect ecosystems?**
* **How does air pollution affect the environment and how can we help protect it?**
* **What is water pollution?**
* **How can we help to conserve water?**



Did you know that around 450 million litres of water are wasted each year in the UK?

**This topic will link to our sustainability driver as we learn the conservation of the environment is important for all life on Earth.**

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| **Key Facts**  |
| The balance of nature within **ecology** is where all living things are **interdependent** on their need of food and secure habitats based on food chains, environment and those these can be affected by pollution, extinction and a range of environmental changes. |
| An **ecosystem** is a geographic area where plants, animals, and other organisms, as well as weather and landscape, work together to form a bubble of life. Ecosystems contain biotic or living, parts, as well as abiotic factors, or nonliving parts. Biotic factors include plants, animals, and other organisms.  |
| Habitats can change throughout the year and this can have an effect on the plants and animals that live there.Humans can have positive and negative effects on the environment : Positive effects : nature reserves, ecological parksNegative effects : litter, urban development |