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For Ages 7-10



The Earth Detective Activity Book



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Teachers' Notes

With an ever-increasing awareness of and exposure to environmental concerns, junior primary students may feel a sense of helplessness or even fear, regarding the future of the earth. **Porter P. Bear The Earth Detective** aims to empower students by informing them of the impact of humans on the environment, and promoting both active and informed citizenship based on this understanding.

With the view that knowledge of an issue is a precursor to action, the book promotes environmentally responsible decision making through an understanding of the interdependence and importance of the global community in addressing environmental concerns.

How to use this Activity Book

This book should be used in conjunction with the associated resource book, **Porter P. Bear The Earth Detective**.

The sections of this book can be used both independently or collaboratively within the classroom. Once a section of the story book has been read, the related activity pages presented in this book can be completed.

Environmental themes covered include:

- The Arctic
- Energy

- Fossil Fuels
- Deforestation
- Pollution
- The Ozone Layer
- New Kinds of Energy

The polar bear character of Porter allows students a more tangible backdrop to their exploration than a fact-based series of information. Porter's trials may illicit an emotional response from the reader, engaging their interest and underpinning their understanding of the environmental concerns facing the earth.

About the Activities

The activities in this book are SOSE/HSIE/S&E and Science based and build upon the ideas and information presented in the resource book.

Most activity sheets are directly related to a section of the story book, enabling teachers to use the text as the foundation for the extension of skills and understandings.

Internet activities (Click On It) and Earth detective extension activities encourage further learning through Internet based games and independent research, as well as interactions between the students themselves and the people in their community.

Mixed-Up Bears

Read **My Home is Melting**, Page 5 in *Porter P. Bear The Earth Detective*

Oh no! Professor Looshun has mixed up his notes all about polar bears and panda bears.

- ☐ Study the jumbled facts below to help the professor sort out which fact is for which type of bear. Put the fact numbers on their correct page.

Jumbled Facts

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Usually give birth to twins. | 6. Can climb trees easily. |
| 2. Are nearly extinct. | 7. Can stay underwater for about two minutes. |
| 3. Have black skin and a thick layer of fat under the skin to keep them warm. | 8. Fur is thick and coarse. |
| 4. Has slits for pupils, like a cat. | 9. Drinks water. |
| 5. Have round pupils, like other bears. | 10. Does not drink water. |
| | 11. Is a Chinese symbol of luck. |



Polar Bears

Panda Bears



Send Porter a Postcard

Read **My Home is Melting**, Page 5 in *Porter P. Bear The Earth Detective*

Porter P. Bear would like to go back home to the Arctic.

- ☐ Write a postcard to Porter, telling him about all of the ways you are helping keep the Arctic region and the earth cooler.

Sample

To:
Porter P. Bear
Harry's
Butcher
Shop

What could these two polar bears be saying to one another about the melting ice?



The Amazing Arctic

Read **My Home is Melting**, Page 5 in *Porter P. Bear The Earth Detective*


- ☐ Fill in facts about the amazing Arctic. Don't forget to use colour and draw pictures to make your information easier to understand.

Animals

Location

Countries

Climate



Click On It:

Go to ► library.thinkquest.org/3500/ to help you find more information about the Arctic.

Before There Was Light

Before there was electricity people had very different lives.
Imagine having no computer, no electric lights and no TV!

☐ Tick the boxes to show which of the activities below needs electricity.

Activity	Electricity	No Electricity
Having a hot shower.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brushing your teeth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sweeping the floor.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Taking food out of the refrigerator.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Putting your dirty plates in the dishwasher.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playing a board game.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watching TV.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Using the microwave to make popcorn.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ironing your school uniform.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Using your bed light to read a book.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eating pancakes for breakfast.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Think about a day in your life with no electricity.

List 3 things you could use instead of the things that need electricity to work?

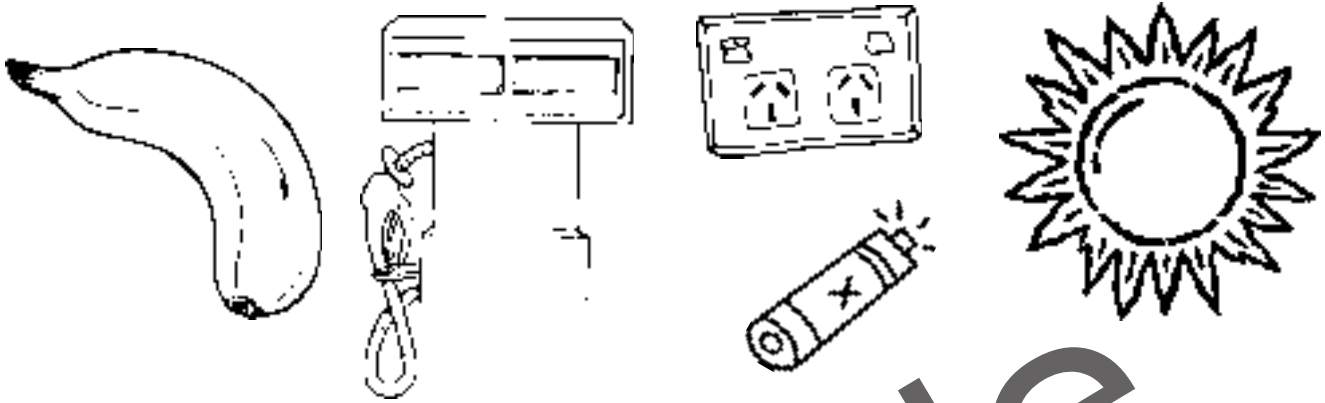
- _____
- _____
- _____



Flick the Switch

Read **Energy**, Page 9 in *Porter P. Bear The Earth Detective*

- ☐ Circle the things below that give humans and machines energy to work.



- ☐ Take a walk around your school and list as many things as you can that need electricity to work. Also make a list of the things that do not need electricity.

Need Electricity	Do Not Need Electricity
TOTAL:	TOTAL:

Click On It:

Go to ► www.eso.qld.gov.au/electricity/act1/act1_02.html

Use your mouse to place the household appliances in the right group.