

**Essential Question:** *How can air pollution be stopped?* 



## How to Research

## EXAMPLE:

**Essential Question:** *How is air pollution linked to climate change?* 

Information:	Source:
Direct Quote:	Author: Lisa Gardiner
"Greenhouse gases cause global warming by trapping heat	Title:" Air Pollution and Climate
from the Sun in the Earth's atmosphere. The increase in	Change"
greenhouses gases is the cause of most of the global	
warming that happened over the past century."	
Indirect Quote:	
Scientists have discovered that certain air pollutants,	Author: Ned Haluzan
such as soot and dust, can have a severe effect on	Title:" How is Air Pollution
weather and climate, reducing rainfall in dry regions while	Affecting Climate Change?"
increasing rain, snowfall and the intensity of severe storms	
in wet regions.	

formation:	Source:	

## FOR HOMEWORK:

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the article below and use the information to answer the essential question below. Be sure to include both direct and indirect quotes. Don't forget to record your source!

## How can air pollution hurt my health? Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory

Air pollution can affect our health in many ways with both *short-term* and *long-term* effects. Different groups of individuals are affected by air pollution in different ways. Some individuals are much more sensitive to pollutants than are others. Young children and elderly people often suffer more from the effects of air pollution. People with health problems such as asthma, heart and lung disease may also suffer more when the air is polluted. The extent to which an individual is harmed by air pollution usually depends on the **total exposure** to the damaging chemicals, meaning, the *duration of exposure* and the *concentration of the chemicals* must be taken into account.

Examples of **short-term effects** include irritation to the eyes, nose and throat, and upper respiratory infections such as bronchitis and pneumonia. Other symptoms can include headaches, nausea, and allergic reactions. Short-term air pollution can aggravate the medical conditions of individuals with asthma and emphysema. In the great "Smog Disaster" in London in 1952, four thousand people died in a few days due to the high concentrations of pollution.

**Long-term health effects** can include chronic respiratory disease, lung cancer, heart disease, and even damage to the brain, nerves, liver, or kidneys. Continual exposure to air pollution affects the lungs of growing children and may aggravate or complicate medical conditions in the elderly. It is estimated that half a million people die prematurely every year in the United States as a result of smoking cigarettes.

Research into the health effects of air pollution is ongoing. Medical conditions arising from air pollution can be very expensive. Healthcare costs, lost productivity in the workplace, and human welfare impacts cost billions of dollars each year.

**Essential Question:** How does air pollution affect our health?

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