

2020-2021 AP Environmental Science Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP Environmental Science! I am very excited for next year, and I hope you are too! The purpose of this summer assignment is to introduce you to Environmental Science and the important legislation covered in the course. First, it will help you become aware of the environment and many of the ongoing concerns we as a global community are facing. Second, it will help us cover the legislation required for the AP exam next May. Third, it will inspire you to learn about all of the great topics we'll cover next year. If you have any questions about this work over the summer, please feel free to email me at lorenzo.harmon@clayton.k12.ga.us Thanks in advance for the time you invest in these assignments.

CURRENT EVENTS: ENVIRONMENTAL ARTICLES SUMMARIES & REFLECTIONS

Find **two articles** that have been published recently 2016-21.

--- Each article should be about a different environmental issue.

Examples: chemical contamination, climate change, pollution, deforestation, overpopulation, endangered species, invasive species, pesticides, habitat destruction

--- Include a hard copy of each article (either printed out, photocopied, or cut out) OR include the hyperlink to the URL if you found it online.

--- Sources can include scientific publications, journals, newspapers like the *NY Times*, *National Geographic*, *The Wall Street Journal* (aim high - the more scholarly the better).

Online newspapers or journals or .gov, .edu. or .org sites are okay too.

--- Include a Works Cited at the end of your reflections (APA is fine).

For each article please address the following criteria in at least 1/2 page single-spaced per article.

1. Summarize the content of the article **in your own words**.

a. Focus on the following questions:

i. What is the problem? When did it begin?

ii. Do we know who the responsible parties are? If so, who is it?

iii. How severe is the environmental impact?

2. Reflect on or write your personal reaction to the article.

a. Focus on the following questions.

i. What are your thoughts on the issue?

ii. How does it compare to information you have heard or read before? Does it support/refute what you know or thought you knew?

iii. What other information would be helpful for you to better understand the environmental impacts?

1. Are there words/concepts you don't understand?

2. Do you know who to trust in regards to "the facts" presented?

ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

Construct a table like my example that organizes important information regarding environmental legislation for the laws/treaties listed below. Include the following information:

--- Name of Law or Treaty

--- Draft Year and Amendment Years

--- Is it International (world) or National (just the U.S)

--- Describe the Function.

--- What Environmental Issues are affected by this Legislation?

--- Agency/Group Responsible for Regulation and Enforcement (United Nations, Department of Interior, EPA, etc.)

Name	Date Draft & Amendment Year(s)	International or US?	Summarized Description	Issue(s) Affected	Agency
Clean Air Act	1963,1977, 1990	US	To monitor and control air pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, ozone, lead, carbon dioxide, volatile organic compounds, mercury. Meant to protect public welfare and health and regulate emissions of dangerous air pollutants.	Air pollution, Human health	EPA

Table Hints:

--- You may find it easier to do this in landscape orientation.

--- .gov sites are best!

***You will have a QUIZ on this material the 3rd week of school, so be prepared! *** (**Make flash cards and study them**).

Environmental Laws and Legislation

Clean Air Act (CAA)

General Mining Act of 1872

Wilderness Act

Clean Water Act (CWA)

Surface Mining Control & Reclamation Act (SMCRA)

Fish and Wildlife Act

Safe Drinking Water Act

General Mining Act of 1872

Energy Policy Act

Kyoto Protocol

Soil & Water Conservation Act

National Wildlife Refuge System Act

Montreal Protocol

Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA)

Lacey Act (1900)

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation Liability Act (CERCLA)

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA, FDCA, or FD&C)

Oil Pollution Act (OPA)

Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

Oil Spill Prevention & Liability Act

Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA)

Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFÉ standards)

Ocean Dumping Ban Act

Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

Pollution Prevention Act (PPA)

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

National Energy Act

Solid Waste Disposal Act

Energy Policy Act

BE AWARE OF AND ENJOY NATURE

Visit a natural area, go for a walk, sit in your backyard, go to a park or the beach or anywhere outside (**ALWAYS BE SAFE!!!**) and make some observations!

--- Record the date, time, duration, and location of your outing.

--- Record observations on the following things:

-Flora (plants)

-Fauna (animals, fungi, etc.)

-Geology (rocks, soil, etc.)

-Weather (today)/Climate (throughout the seasons)

--You don't need to know specific species names for all of the plants and animals and types of rocks and soil that you see, but *describe them*. What color are they? How big are they? What are they doing? How are they interacting with each other, with other types of organisms?

--This part of the assignment can just be a running list of things you see, can use bullet points, and doesn't need to be in complete sentences.

--You can also include drawings of what you see if you are so inclined.

--- Write a paragraph (complete sentences, etc.) reflecting on the following questions:

-What did you encounter?

-What questions did you wonder as you observed everything?

-How much and what kinds of human impacts did you notice in that area?

-How did you enjoy the activity?