

Unit 1 Getting Started

What Do You Already Know?

How I Am Being Assessed

1. Spaceships have strict rules about what must be done to avoid polluting the air and overusing the food and water supplies. On spaceship Earth, we cannot really “throw things away” because everything we throw out stays on Earth.

(a) Suggest a set of rules for human passengers on spaceship Earth.

(b) How closely do we follow those rules now? Suggest some behaviours that we should consider changing.

2. Explain the difference between renewable and nonrenewable resources and give two examples of each.

3 Think about an example from your own community of how humans have affected the environment. Could this have been avoided? If so, what would have been the impact on your community?

4 Give an example of a food chain from a local ecosystem. Describe what you think would happen if one of the organisms were removed.

5 There are basically two views of the place of humans on Earth. The Western view describes humans as at the centre of environmental changes, acting as stewards or protectors of the environment. The First Nations view describes humans as part of the environment, attempting to live in harmony with nature. From each viewpoint, describe what has happened to the Great Lakes during the past century.
