

EAC LOST COP26 Challenge

Clean Transport

Transport is the biggest source of air and noise pollution in the UK. In town centres and alongside busy roads, motor vehicles are responsible for most local pollution and most environmental noise. We can't always see the pollution but we can see the signs of a polluted atmosphere in the living things around us.

Early Level

Sycamore Snap



Tar spot fungi appear on the leaves of many types of trees. The one we see most often is the Sycamore Tar Spot. It is almost impossible to find leaves without this fungi from midsummer onwards. There is little evidence that the tree's health is significantly affected by tar spot fungus. The tar spot fungus is sensitive to sulphur dioxide (SO_2) pollution and is less common where levels are high. Lots of tar spot is a sign that pollution levels are low!

Collect sycamore leaves and count the spots or enjoy a game of snap, when your pupils ask why the leaves have spots you can explain!

First Level

Create a Clean Air Action Plan for Your School

1. First, answer a few questions about your school.

This helps the tool tailor the suggested actions to best suit your school's situation. A basic understanding of your school's operations is all you need, for example, are you next to a main road or does the school receive deliveries more than once a week?

2. Next, choose from the recommended actions.

You will be presented with a selection of air pollution actions based on their relevance and potential impact, alongside symbols that indicate their relative cost and effort to implement. We suggest you choose up to six actions for your plan to start with.

3. Over to you!

You will be presented with a clean air action plan that also links to helpful advice, resources and case studies to help you to implement your chosen actions. When you have completed your first set of actions, return to the framework and add some more to your action to continue on your path to become a clean air school.

For more information <https://www.transform-our-world.org/clean-air-for-schools>

Second Level and Beyond

Air Survey - What Can Lichens Tell Us about Air Quality?

This resource consists of two field work activities. The first records lichens on trees as an indicator of air quality and the second looks for tar spot fungus on sycamore leaves. This links to curriculum work on plants, habitats, air quality and improving the environment. This resource includes a workbook, field guide and tree identification guide.

This survey is part of the Open Air Laboratories (OPAL) project which encourages people from all backgrounds to get back in touch with nature and will also generate valuable scientific data concerning the state of our environment.

[STEM Air Quality Survey](#)

UN Sustainable Development Goals

All of the above suggestions link to several of the United Nations Global Goals - sometimes called the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs. For more information on all 17 of the Global Goals and teaching resources see below

SCOTDEC

Resources for Teachers - Explore the Global Goals

<https://scotdec.org.uk/resources/>

UNITED NATIONS

An overview on the United Nations website

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2016/07/17goals17days-progress-made-on-sustainable-development-goals/>

