

Making Connections: Human Activity, Environmental Impact, Human Health	
Goal	Students will gain a better appreciation for Earth by learning about the relationship between our environment and our health.
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will identify a topic and develop an essential question that directly impacts both the environment and human health • Students will conduct research using the Environmental Health Student Portal to make connections between human activity, the effect on our environment, and how that activity impacts human health • Students will present their findings to the class in the form of a scientific poster presentation
Methodology:	Research/Presentation
Materials:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart board, Overhead projector, or chart paper • Computer with Internet connection and printer • Poster board • Markers • Glue • Scissors
Instruction:	<p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask students to partner with the person next to them or to work in small groups • Pose the question: Why do you care about the environment? • Give students about 5 minutes to work together to respond to the question. Ask students to create a list of their responses. • Debrief and place student responses on a smart board, overhead projector, or chart paper. Review responses and choose two or three examples where connections can be made to human health. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Example: Student Response: Water pollution can kill fish Teacher Question: What other impacts can water pollution have on our environment? How might that impact us as humans?</p> </div> <p>Research: (Approximately 2 - 3 days)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assign students to work in groups related to Water Pollution, Air Pollution, Chemicals, or Climate Change. (Note: You can have more than one group per topic) • Ask students to create an essential question that relates their environmental topic area to human health. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Example: How do greenhouse gasses affect human health?</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give each group the graphic organizer “Research on Environmental Health” • Students will work in groups in the computer lab or in the classroom using the NLM’s Environmental Health Student Portal (http://kidsenvirohealth.nlm.nih.gov) or Tox Town (http://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov) to complete the graphic organizer. (Note: If time is needed at home for the project, ask students to divide up the pieces of the graphic organizer so that each student has a specific detail to research.)

	<p>Presentation: (Approximately 2 days)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each group will be given poster board, markers, scissors and glue. • Groups will put together their poster using headings, brief descriptions, bulleted text and images (See student directions) • Students within the group will each write and participate in the oral presentation • On the day of the presentations, hang posters up around the room. Give students about 5 to 10 minutes to go around the room to view each other's posters. • Allow each group time to present their poster to the class and respond to questions from the students. <p>Extension Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite parents and teachers to come in to view the posters. Have students stand in front of their poster to answer questions and talk about their findings. • Ask students to fill out the activity sheet "The Consequences of Human Activity on the Environmental and How it Can Affect My Health: What I've Learned"
Evaluation:	See Rubric