

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

“Stand here for a second. Really look. Now imagine a mine two kilometres upstream.”



YOUR ROLE TODAY: FIELD ASSESSOR

A field assessor's job is to notice what most people walk past — the air, the water, the sound, the life. Today you learn the five things assessors check. Then some news arrives about this creek.

■ STEP INTO THE PICTURE — 3, 2, 1

You are standing at this creek. Use your imagination like an assessor uses their senses.

THREE sounds you would hear: _____ . _____ . _____

TWO things you would smell: _____ . _____

ONE thing you would feel: _____

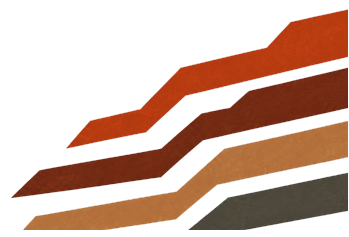
■ YOUR MISSION DATA RETURNS

Hands up time: did either of your adults mention nature, quiet, space, or fresh air when they chose where to live? Listen to the class share, then answer:

Roughly how much of the class had an adult mention something environmental? ☐ almost everyone ☐
about half ☐ only a few

What does that tell us about environmental quality and choosing where to live? (One sentence.)

My hunch, locked in before page 2: the biggest threat to a place like this creek would be



■ THE FIVE CHANNELS — WHAT AN ASSESSOR CHECKS

Environmental quality travels through five channels: **AIR · WATER · NOISE · LAND & SOIL · PLANTS & ANIMALS**. Damage one channel and liveability feels it. Prove you've got them with the quick quiz — four question types, no mercy.

Q1 · Multiple choice. Dust from mine trucks settles over a town. Which channel is hit FIRST? Circle one: **A** air **B** noise **C** plants & animals **D** water

Q2 · Multiple choice. Which of these is NOT one of the five channels? Circle one: **A** water **B** wifi signal **C** noise **D** land & soil

Q3 · True or false — and fix it if it's false. "Noise counts as environmental quality." ☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE My fix (if needed): _____

Q4 · True or false — and fix it if it's false. "Once environmental quality drops, it can never improve." ☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE My fix: _____

Q5 · Odd one out. Circle the one that is NOT environmental quality, and say why: clean creek water · birdsong · a new skate park · fresh air

Why it's the odd one: _____

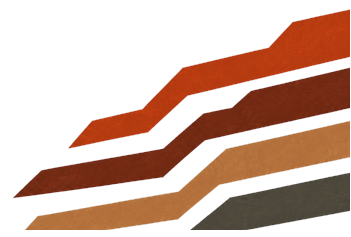
■ THE NEWS ARRIVES — WRITE THE TWO FUTURES

NEWS · A MINE IS PROPOSED 2 KM UPSTREAM FROM THIS CREEK

In WA, big projects must pass an environmental assessment before they can start. And mining companies must fix up (rehabilitate) the land afterwards. So the future isn't fixed. It depends on how well the job is done. Write both futures — two or three sentences each.

Future 1 — the job is done badly. What happens to this place? Use at least two channels by name.

Future 2 — the job is done well. What protected the creek? What did the company have to do?



■ THE 5-MINUTE EVIDENCE HUNT — DEVICES OUT

- 1 **Pair up.** One of you drives the device, one writes. Swap jobs halfway.
- 2 **Five minutes on the clock.** Find ONE real WA example of either: a place where mining changed the environment, OR a mine site being rehabilitated (fixed up after mining). Try searching “mine site rehabilitation WA”.
- 3 **Capture it below** — what you found, one fact from it, and exactly where you found it. No source, no evidence. That's the assessor's rule.

OUR EVIDENCE · WHAT WE FOUND + ONE FACT

Our source (site or page name): _____

Our find was about: ☐ damage ☐ rehabilitation ☐ a bit of both

■ THE LIVEABILITY LINK — THE LONG ANSWER

Get your Lesson 1 top five out. Imagine environmental quality drops hard in your suburb. Explain how daily life would change for someone who lives there. Name at least TWO channels, and mention one factor from your own top five.

■ EXIT TICKET — THE ASSESSOR SIGNS OFF

1. The five channels, from memory: _____ · _____ · _____ · _____ · _____
2. Circle one: environmental quality is... fixed forever · changeable by human choices · only about pollution
3. The one sentence I would say to a mining boss before they start digging near this creek:

4. Think for next lesson: if YOU were the judge, what would a mine have to PROVE before you said yes? Bring one idea.

SKILLS I USED TODAY — TICK WHAT'S TRUE

☐ stepped into a place with my senses · ☐ survived four question types · ☐ wrote two honest futures · ☐ found real evidence online, with a source · ☐ connected the environment to real daily life