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Science



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**SCIENCE 403**  
**MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT**  
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# MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT

God created the world and gave man the job of caring for His world. In this LIFEPAK® you will learn what God created and the systems He planned for life on earth. You will learn how

man depends on the things God created. You will learn if man has taken good care of God's earth. Also, you will learn about plans for keeping God's world beautiful and useful.

## OBJECTIVES

**Read these objectives.** The objectives tell you what you should be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAK.

When you have finished this LIFEPAK, you should be able to:

1. Tell four resources that God provided on earth.
2. Tell the meaning of ecology.
3. Explain the meaning of a food chain.
4. Tell about the kinds of living things in a population.
5. Explain about the balance of nature.
6. Tell about some communities of living things and how the living things depend on each other.
7. Tell ways man has been careless with the environment.
8. Tell ways that the resources can be conserved.
9. Tell ways that the resources can be preserved.

## VOCABULARY

**Study these new words.** Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAK.

**bacteria** (bak tir'ē u). Very small plants, so small that they can usually be seen only through a microscope.

**beaver** (bē' vur). A gnawing animal with soft fur, flat tail, and webbed hind feet.

**cactuses** (kak' tus uz). The plural of cactus. A plant with a thick, fleshy stem that usually has spines but no leaves.

**carbon dioxide** (kar' bun dī ok' sīd). A colorless gas that is present in air.

**chlorophyll** (klōr' u fil). The green coloring matter in plants.

**conserve** (kun sērv'). To protect from loss or from being used up.

**consumer** (kun sū'mur). A person who uses food, clothing, or anything grown by producers.

**contour plowing** (kon' tūr plou' ing). Plowing around hills to prevent erosion.

**crayfish** (krā' fish'). A freshwater animal looking much like a small lobster.

**create** (krē at'). To make something that has not been made before.

**decay** (di kā'). To become rotten.

**decomposer** (dē' kum pō' zur). Something that rots something else.

**dew** (dü). Moisture from the air that condenses and collects in small drops on cool surfaces during the night.

**ecologist** (ē kol' u jist). A person skilled in ecology.

**ecology** (e kol u je). The science that deals with the relation of living things to their environments and to each other.

**egret** (ē' gret). Any of various white or grey herons.

**energy** (en' ur jē). The power to do work.

**environment** (en vī' run munt). All the surrounding things, conditions, and influences that have to do with the growth of things.

**erosion** (i rō' zhun). Being worn away little by little.

**extinct** (ek stingkt'). No longer existing.

**fungi** (fun' jī). Plural of fungus. Plant without flowers, leaves, or green coloring matter.

**geyser** (gī' zur). A spring that sends up jets of hot water or steam.

**grouse** (grous). A brown bird with feathered legs that is hunted for food.

**habitat** (hab' u tat). A place where an animal or plant naturally lives or grows.

**mesquite** (me skēt'). A tree or shrub common in the southwestern United States.

**moisture** (mois' chur). Slight wetness.

**mold** (mōld). A fungus that appears on food when it is left in a warm, moist place.

**nitrogen** (nī' tru jen). A gas that is in the air.

**nuclear** (nü' klē ur). Having to do with atomic energy.

**nutrient** (nu' trē unt). A nourishing substance.

**otter** (ot' ur). An animal somewhat like a weasel that has webbed toes with claws and is a good swimmer.

**oxygen** (ōk' su jun). A gas that is in the air.

**pest** (pest). A thing or person that causes trouble.

**photosynthesis** (fō' tu sin' thu sis). The process in a green plant that produces carbohydrates by the action of sunlight on the chlorophyll.

**plankton** (plangk' tun). The small animals and plants that live in water.

**pollution** (pu lū' shun). That which makes an environment dirty or impure.

**population** (pop' yu lā' shun). A part of the inhabitants of an area.

**preserve** (pri zerv'). To keep safe, to protect.

**producer** (pru dü' sur). One who makes things that are used by others.

**recycle** (re si' kul). To treat or process so it may be used again.

**resource** (re' sōrs). Any supply that will meet a need.

**rot** (rot). To become rotten, to decay.

**sagebrush** (saj' brush'). A grayish-green, bushy plant in western North America.

**saguaro** (su gwä' rō). A tall cactus of Arizona.

**sequoia** (si kwoi' u). An evergreen tree of California.

**smog** (smog). A combination of smoke and fog in the air.

**snail** (snāl). A small animal with a soft body that crawls very slowly.

**solar** (sō' lur). Of the sun.

**spoonbill** (spün' bil'). Any of a group of long-legged birds with spoon-shaped bills.

**squid** (skwid). A sea animal like an octopus having ten arms instead of eight.

**termite** (tēr' mīt). An insect with a soft body that eats wood.

**vapor** (va' pur). Moisture in the air.

**vulture** (vul' chur). A large bird that eats dead animals.

**Note:** All vocabulary words in this LIFE PAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /TH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

# I. MAN DEPENDS ON GOD'S PLAN

Everyone in Mrs. Turner's class at Good Hope School was busy. Today was a special day. The award for the most cans was being presented. Stacks of cans were in front of the building. Boxes of cans lined the driveway. In every corner cans peeked out of sacks, garbage cans, and containers of every size.

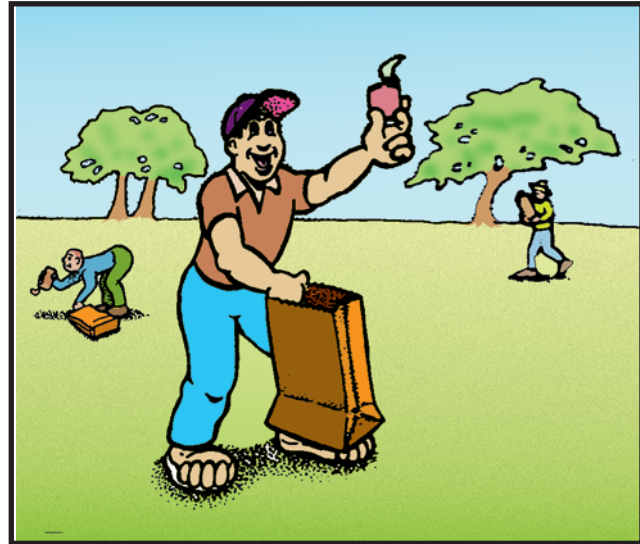
Mrs. Turner, the teacher, said to the class, "Why did you collect all these cans?" No one spoke.

Then Ken raised his hand and said, "My mother was glad to have the cans taken away from the house."

Kim added, "My neighbors wanted the alley cleaned up."

"We should use things again and again. These cans will be used to make other cans," said Jane.

"You are right," said Mrs. Turner. You are going to study in this LIFEPAK about your **environment**. In the first section you will learn about the meaning of the word **ecology** and how God has provided for His earth.



## SECTION OBJECTIVES

**Review these objectives.** When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Tell four resources that God provided on earth.
2. Tell the meaning of ecology.
3. Explain the meaning of a food chain.
4. Tell about the kinds of living things in a population.
5. Explain about the balance of nature.