

Clean Air vs Dirty Air LAB

Air Pollution Observation Activity

WHAT ARE WE EXPLORING?

In this activity, you will compare clean air and polluted air using simple models.

You will look for:

Visible particles
Changes over time
How air can carry pollution

SUPPLIES

2 clear jars or cups
Cotton balls or paper towel
Tape
Pepper, dust, or fine particles

SET UP

Label one jar "clean air" and one "dirty air."
Place a cotton ball inside each jar.
Add particles (pepper/dust) to the dirty air jar.
Leave both jars open for a short time or gently move air through them.

MAKE A PREDICTION

What do you think will happen to the cotton?

- ☐ It will stay clean
- ☐ It will collect particles
- ☐ Something else: _____



Clean/Dirty Air Comparison LAB

A Simple Water Pollution Observation Activity

OBSERVE AND RECORD

Look closely at both jars over time. Record what you see.

TIME	CLEAN AIR COTTON	DIRTY AIR COTTON
Start		
5 minutes		
15 minutes		
30 minutes		

WHAT CHANGED?

Circle or write what you notice about the dirty air:

- ☐ Cotton collected particles
- ☐ Dirty air looks darker
- ☐ No change
- ☐ Other: _____

THINK ABOUT IT

How did the dirty air affect the cotton?

What might happen if this was inside your lungs?

THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT

Air pollution includes tiny particles that float in the air.

These particles can travel through air

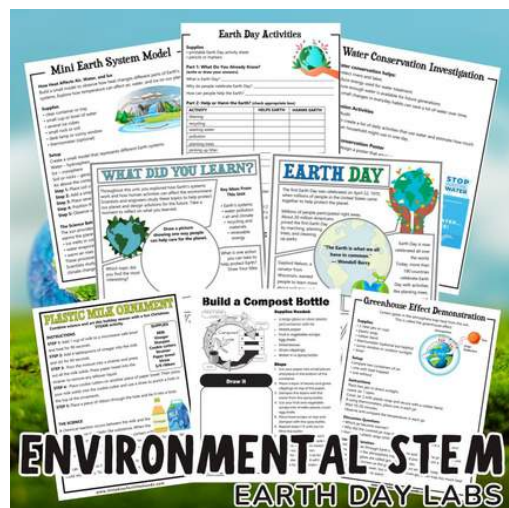
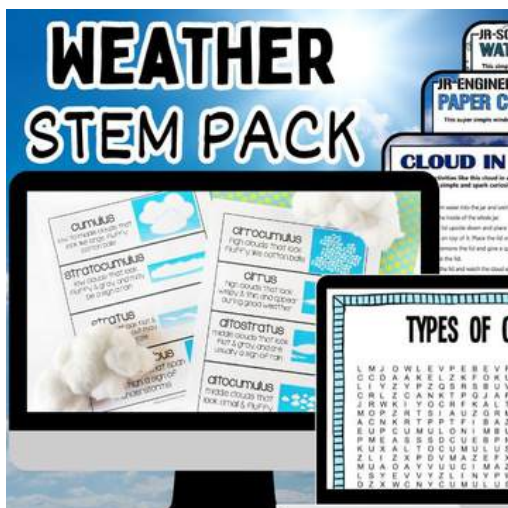
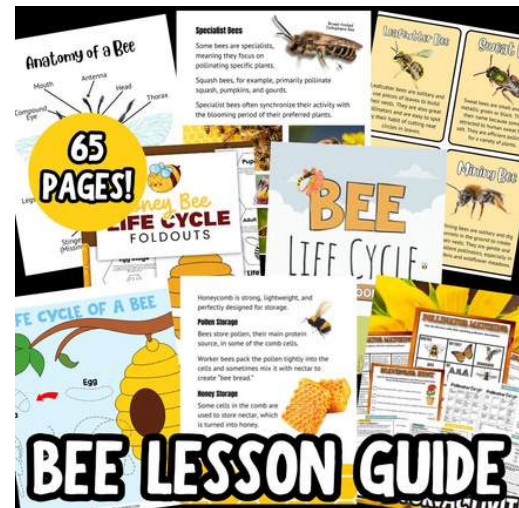
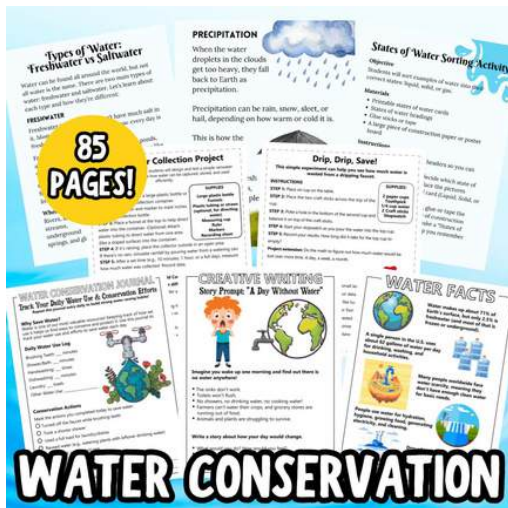
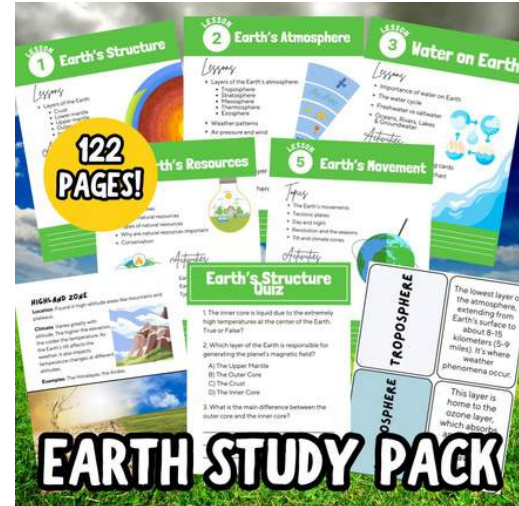
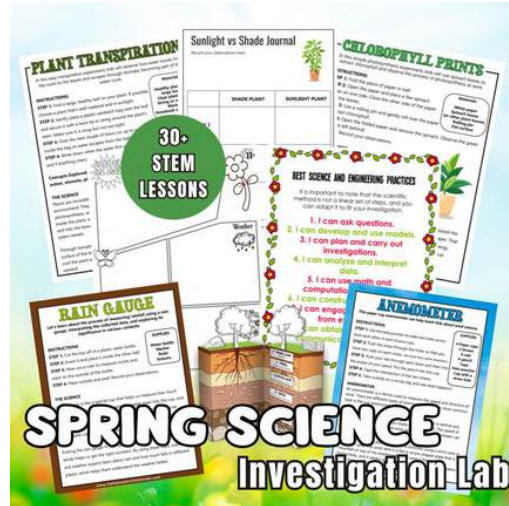
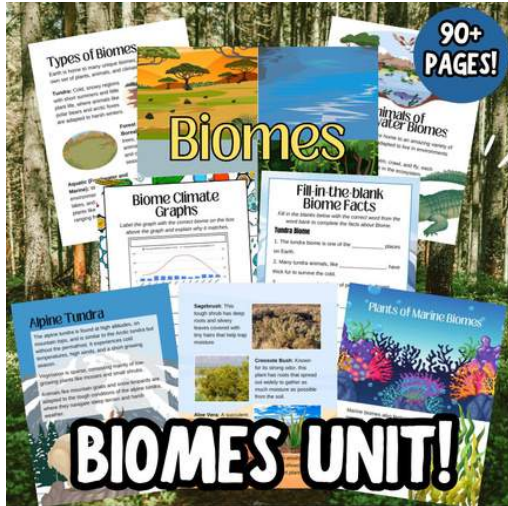
They can get trapped in filters (like cotton)

They can enter the lungs when we breathe

EXTEND IT

Try testing different materials to see which traps the most particles!

More Spring Labs



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