



8th - Unit 1: Protecting my environment!

By Diego Piedrahíta – English Teacher

By the end of this unit, you will:



- Recognize vocabulary related to the environment.
- Recognize expressions of opinion.
- Present, orally and rehearsed, the impact of diverse human actions in the environment with the pertinent vocabulary.
- Request information from the classmates about human actions in the environment through information questions previously rehearsed.
- Express opinion or give information orally, spontaneously and with simple vocabulary.
- Identify basic arguments in brief written texts.
- Show respect for the environment through the promotion of responsible practices.
- Recognize his own environmental practices and those of others.

The following items will help you identify what to do:



Writing	Conversation	Listening	Reading	Monologue
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This is Colombia

Colombia is a beautiful, colorful country. It has many interesting places to visit. There are high mountains such as El Picacho in Santander. There are the sunny, hot plains of Meta and rivers, such as the Amazon and the Orinoco. There is a lake near Cali called Calima. I also love the colors of the sea on the Caribbean Coast near La Guajira and Cartagena. I enjoy the fresh air and the green of the rainforests in Chocó and the Amazon. Colombia has beautiful landscapes!



Mini-lesson

“There is” and “There are” are used to say that something exists or doesn’t exist.

Affirmative sentences

- There is + singular noun
- There are + plural noun
- There is + uncountable noun

Negative sentences

- There isn’t + singular noun
- There aren’t + plural noun
- There isn’t + uncountable nouns

Interrogative sentences

- Is there + singular noun
- Are there + plural noun
- Is there + uncountable noun

There is a computer on the desk
There are some objects on the table
There is some water in the fridge

There isn’t a book on the desk
There aren’t any papers on the table
There isn’t any milk in the fridge

Is there an interesting show on TV?
Are there activities for the next class?
Is there oil in the kitchen?

How many + plural nouns

How much + uncountable nouns

How many days **are there** in a week? – **there are** 7 days

How much sugar **is there** in the kitchen? – **there’s** much sugar

“There is” and “There are” by Felipe Rocha – Cibercolegio student - 2013

<https://goanimate.com/videos/0OGxwD1vmius>





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NATURAL ECOPARKS IN COLOMBIA

Ecoparque de la Salud (The Health Ecopark)

Cali is the biggest city in the south west of Colombia. Like other cities in Colombia, it has an ecopark nearby. The Health Ecopark in Cali is a large park which borders the beautiful Pance River. At 564 km² it is the most important park in the area. The forest is a relaxing place for people from the nearby city to get fresher air and cooler temperatures. There are lots of trees in the forest and a wide variety of animals and birds. People visiting the ecopark can see birds such as guacharacas, eagles and other native species. Along the river they can see amphibians such as toads and frogs in the clear water.

Tayrona Ecopark

Tayrona Ecopark near Santa Marta in the north of Colombia is smaller than the Health Ecopark, with an area of 150 km². This ecopark is more famous than the Health Ecopark. Tayrona has beautiful beaches, exotic nature and clear blue sea. It has a wide variety of wildlife as the park is located between the sea and the mountains.

In terms of wildlife, there are 300 species of birds and 70 species of bats, as well as jaguars, deer, iguanas, turtles and other native species.

Visitors can walk in the forest or relax on the beaches. You can camp in Cañaveral or El Cabo or go swimming in La Piscina - a natural sea water lake.





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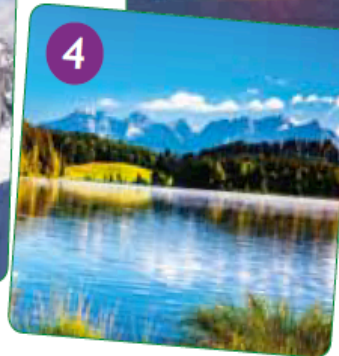
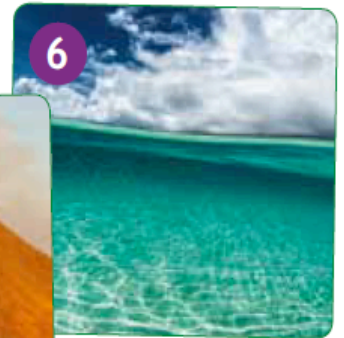
True or False?

Read the text and the sentences. Are they True (T) or False (F)? Correct the false sentences:

- A Tayrona Ecopark is bigger than the Health Ecopark.
?
- B In the Health Park people can see wildlife in the sea.
?
- C People from Cali can enjoy fresher air by visiting the Health Park.
?
- D Tayrona Ecopark has places where you can stay the night.
?
- E The Health Ecopark is more famous than Tayrona Ecopark.
?
- F The Health Ecopark has both mountains and the sea.
?



- 3. mountain
- 2. river
- 7. rainforest
- 4. lake
- 1. plain
- 6. sea
- 5. volcano





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Mini-lesson	
Adjectives	
They are used to describe nouns. They usually appear before the noun:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a nice class • a wonderful family • a virtual class.
Comparative sentences	
Adjectives are also used to compare people, places, objects....	
<p>Short adjectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 or 2 syllables adjectives + ER <p>Big – bigger than</p> <p>Happy – happier than</p> <p>Old – older than</p> <p>Cold – colder than</p>	<p>An elephant is bigger than a horse.</p> <p>I am happier than my cousins.</p> <p>My dad is older than my mom.</p> <p>Bogotá is colder than Medellín.</p>
<p>Large adjectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MORE + 3 or more syllables <p>Important</p> <p>Expensive</p>	<p>English is more important than Chines.</p> <p>Cars are more expensive than bicycles.</p>
Superlative sentences	
Adjectives are used to compare three or more nouns, and show which is best as cold, colder and the coldest.	
<p>Short adjectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THE + 1 or 2 syllables + EST <p>Big</p> <p>Cold</p>	<p>An elephant is the biggest animal</p> <p>Pasto is the coldest city</p>
<p>Large adjectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THE MOST + 3 or more adjectives <p>Important</p> <p>Expensive</p>	<p>English is the most important language</p> <p>Cars are the most expensive means of transportation.</p>



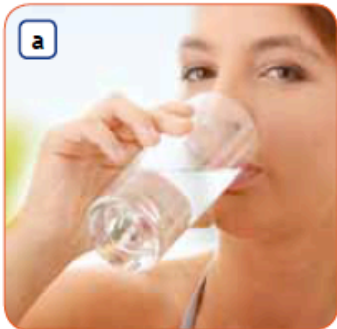


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“Superlative” by Felipe Rocha – Cibercolegio student - 2013
<https://goanimate.com/videos/0-rXuD6DPcW0>

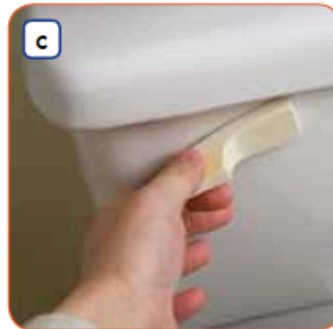
Saving water



drink



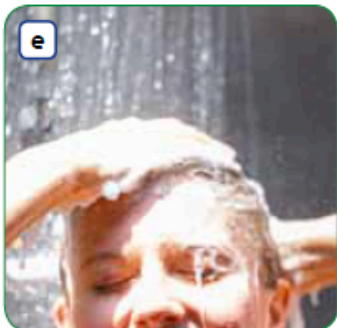
water the plants



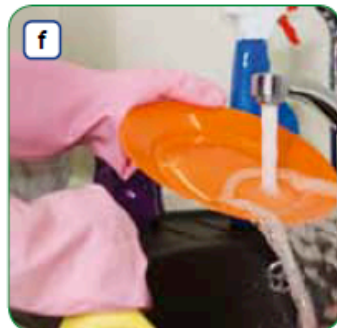
flush the toilet



prepare food



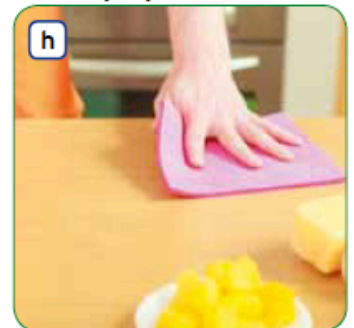
take a shower



do the washing-up



do the laundry



clean the kitchen

Approximately how much water do you use when you . . .

1. **Flush the toilet?**
 - a. 5 – 10 liters
 - b. 10 – 20 liters
 - c. 20 – 30 liters
2. **Take a 10-minute shower?**
 - a. 40 liters
 - b. 70 liters
 - c. 100 liters
3. **Do the washing-up for 5 minutes?**
 - a. 10 liters
 - b. 20 liters
 - c. 30 liters
4. **Do the laundry in a washing machine?**
 - a. 30 – 40 liters
 - b. 50 – 100 liters
 - c. 100 – 150 liters
5. **Where do you think we use most water at home? Put the following in order**
 - a. Doing the laundry
 - b. Cleaning the kitchen
 - c. Preparing food
 - d. In the bathroom





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Let's save water!

Don't waste water!

There are 7 billion people on the planet and we need more water than before. 1.1 billion people don't have access to fresh water. Others only have access for part of the year. Pollution from factories and chemicals makes water dirty. Also, climate change means that there is less water now. It rains less, or rain falls at different times. The rain doesn't fill rivers and reservoirs.

If there is no clean water, people drink dirty water instead. This causes illnesses and a lot of people, especially children, die because of this.

What can we do?

If you live in a country with lots of fresh water, you are very lucky! But you can still help to save your country's water.

- Turn off the tap when you are brushing your teeth.
- Don't use fresh water to water your lawn.
- Don't have a bath. Have a shower instead.
- Eat less meat. The meat industry uses a lot of water.

Water is precious! Don't waste it.

Listen to Tania. What good habits does she have about using water?



Interviewer: Tania, tell us about how you and your family use water. What do you do every day that uses water?

Tania: Well, I drink a lot of water – about eight glasses of water every day. My parents prepare the meals every day, and my sister and I do the washing-up.

Interviewer: Do you have a shower every day?

Tania: I have a shower twice a day! In the mornings and in the evenings, because I go running in the evenings. But I don't wash my hair every day. I do that four times a week. There's a bath in our bathroom, but I never have a bath.

Interviewer: What about the weekends?

Tania: My mom does the laundry at the weekends. So I guess that uses a lot of water. Also, my dad washes his car every weekend. But we live in an apartment and we don't have a garden, so we never use water to water the plants.





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Adverbs of frequency and time expressions

Time expressions and adverbs of frequency by Diego Piedrahíta – English teacher – 2016
<http://ucn.adobeconnect.com/p29lhgojr9t/>

This is a campaign to encourage people to save water:

Water is precious!



Don't have a shower
every day.

Don't wash your car
every week.

Always turn off
taps completely.

Comparative sentences by Diego Piedrahíta – English teacher – 2014

http://media.wix.com/ugd/da6c03_d5e85d2341344780a8e604804d9f54ce.pdf

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Predictions

Predicting what will happen in the future depends on the current situations we're facing, such as economy, politics, peace deals, ICT in education, global warming, and the like.

Let's see what some people think will happen in some years.

- a. People will be much healthier.
- b. Forests will disappear.
- c. There will be more floods.
- d. People will live longer.
- e. There will be less pollution.
- f. The world will be cleaner.
- g. More animals will become extinct.
- h. Houses and apartments will be smaller.
- i. People won't eat meat.
- j. People won't be able to breathe outside.



Some students from Cibercolegio predict what the future will be like.

Read the following information and reflect about it:





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By 2050 the study will be by internet and learners will study from their houses. But houses will be smaller and families will have only one child.

There will be flying cars and the buses, taxis, motorbikes and trucks will disappear, because the new means of transportation will be aerial.

The families will have better living conditions thanks to internet and many other electronic devices, but there will be too much pollution because people don't care the planet.

“Predictions” by Sandra Victoria Gómez – Cibercolegio student – 2012

Expressing opinion

You can state your opinions and say if you agree or disagree with someone else. Here are some options to use:

- I (really) think that . . .
- I believe (that) . . .
- I'm sure that . . .
- In my opinion / my opinion is . . .
- I agree with . . .
- I disagree with . . .
- I guess / imagine . . .
- I have no doubt that . . .
- I strongly believe that . . .

I agree with Sandra.
In my opinion families will be smaller than now, because life will be very expensive.

I disagree with Sandra. I am sure that flying cars will be very expensive, and so buses, taxis and current automobiles will exist by 2050.





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Referencias

Las imágenes, textos y demás material audio visual, en su mayoría de producción de estudiantes y docente del Cibercolegio UCN, fueron tomados con fines académicos, apoyados además por el currículo sugerido por el Ministerio de Educación Nacional.

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Ministerio de Educación Nacional. (2016). Derechos Básicos de Aprendizaje y Currículo Sugerido de Inglés: Grados 6° a 11°. Bogotá, DC. Colombia. Recuperado de <http://aprende.colombiaaprende.edu.co/es/colombiabilingue/88005>

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