### **Acid rain**

# The problem

The problem starts here. Cars burn petrol and factories and power stations burn coal and emit toxic fumes. So, the air that we breathe becomes polluted.

# Air pollution and acid rain

This pollution is gathered in clouds and when it reacts with the oxygen and water in the atmosphere it becomes acid. The winds carry the polluted clouds long distances. When it rains, this pollution falls on trees, houses, buildings, cars, clothes, everywhere!!! This is called acid rain.

### Water and soil pollution

When acid rain falls into lakes, streams, rivers and seas, they become toxic. This is water pollution and it harms or kills fish and plants. When acid rain flows through the soil, it poisons trees and plants. Acid rain also causes serious damage to important buildings and makes people feel sick.

### **Solutions**

We all need air to survive. One way to make the air cleaner is to drive less. We can us public transport or ride our bikes as much as possible. We can also use less electricity. For example we can turn off the lights when we leave a room. Factories can use new technologies to help make factory smoke less harmful to the environment. We all need to work together to stop this problem before it is too late!

# **Questions:**

- 1. What else would you like to know about acid rain?
- 2. If the whole world was listening to you, what would you say about acid rain?