

Clean Air Route Planning



Time: 30-45 minutes



Activity Overview

The aim of this activity is to learn how we can plan our journeys to travel through areas of good air quality and avoid areas with poor air quality.

What you'll need:

- Borough map - provided
- Coloured pens/pencils



To find out more about air pollution, watch [this video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sYGn2ZgGts&feature=youtu.be) from Haringey Council produced by students at The Mulberry Primary School!

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sYGn2ZgGts&feature=youtu.be>)

What affects air quality?

Air pollution occurs when gases, dust, or odours are introduced to the air. This makes the air dirty.

Air pollution can result from both human and natural actions. In London, most of the air pollution comes from road traffic (cars, lorries, buses etc.) Some other human activities that contribute to air pollution are factories, burning fossil fuels and crop dusting.

Green areas, like parks, are good for helping improve air quality. Trees and plants help to clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide, and filtering dust particles with their leaves and bark. They also produce oxygen and help keep our streets cool.

You can find clean air routes by visiting the [Mayor of London's website](https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/what-we-are-doing/clean-air-routes).



Did You Know...



A thick smog formed in London during the late 1800s. It was called the "London Fog" or the "Pea Soup Fog", mostly resulting from the smoke of coal fires factory chimneys.



It is estimated that you breathe 20,000 litres of air each day. This means the more polluted the air is, the more dangerous chemicals we breathe into our lungs.



Use the map of the borough attached to this activity which can be printed out and drawn on.

If you don't have a printer, right click on the file and click 'open with Paint'. This will let you draw on the map in Paint and you can save your route when you're done. If you can't find your neighbourhood or want to do some more clean air route planning, use [Google My Maps](#) following [this guide](#).

Task 1

Start by thinking of different sources of pollution you might find on the map. Busy roads, factories, car parks are just a few. Can you think of any more?

- **Using a red pen or pencil can you circle five places on the map where you think there will be a high level of air pollution?**



Task 2

Then, think about areas on the map which may have good/better air quality. Green spaces, quiet roads, footpaths, etc. Are there any more?

- **Using a green pen or pencil can you circle 5 places on the map where you think there will be a low level of air pollution?**

Task 3

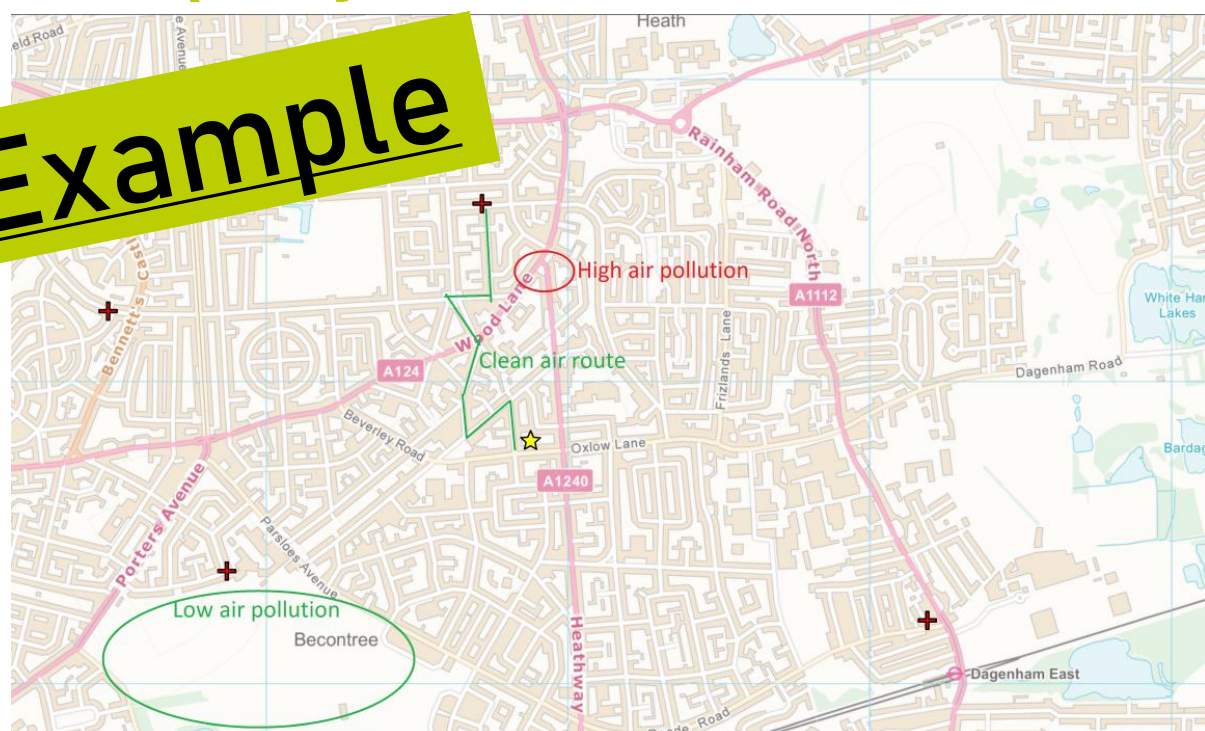
Plan a route from your house on the map to your school. You could repeat this for other routes you may take, like going to your local park, after school clubs, or shops.

- **Using a green pen or pencil can you find a route which passes through areas with good air quality and avoids the areas of bad air quality?**

Remember:

- Use **red** circles to show areas of high pollution
- Use **green** circles to show areas of low pollution
- Use **green lines** to show the clean air routes you could take.

Example



You could go out with an adult to practice these clean air routes by walking or cycling!

Remember to Stop, Look, Listen, Think when you are navigating these routes and crossing roads. To help you learn about road safety and your journey to school, you can find information from your local council here:

- [Road Safety Education](#)
- [Journey to school](#)

We'd love to hear from you!

If you planned a route to school with clear air, or tested them out, please send us photos:

@haringeycouncil on twitter

