Name _____

Date _____

Lesson Quick Study

Lesson 3 - How Do People Affect Ecosystems?

1. Inquiry Skill Practice–Identify and Control Variables

Scientists identify and control variables in an experiment so that they can observe the effects of one variable at a time.

Ryan filled each of three jars with equal amounts of clay, sand, and potting soil. He put four earthworms in the first jar, four ants in the second jar, and no animals in the third jar. He observed the jars for a week and made notes. What is the variable in Ryan's experiment? What could he learn by controlling it?

The variable is the type of organism in the jar: earthworms, ants, or nothing. He can learn about the effects of certain organisms on soil.

2. Use Vocabulary

Complete each sentence with the correct term from the box.

Lawn chemicals can cause pollution by washing into nearby streams.

Reclamation projects restore damaged ecosystems.

reclamation
pollution
acid rain
habitat
conservation

3. Reading Skill Practice–Main Idea and Details

Focus Skill

Read the selection. Underline the main idea. List at least three details about the main idea.

Recycling conserves energy. It takes 30 percent less energy to recycle glass than to make new glass. Recycling paper uses four-fifths of the energy needed to make paper from trees. Recycling aluminum saves the most energy. Making new cans from old ones takes 96 percent less energy. That's a big savings!

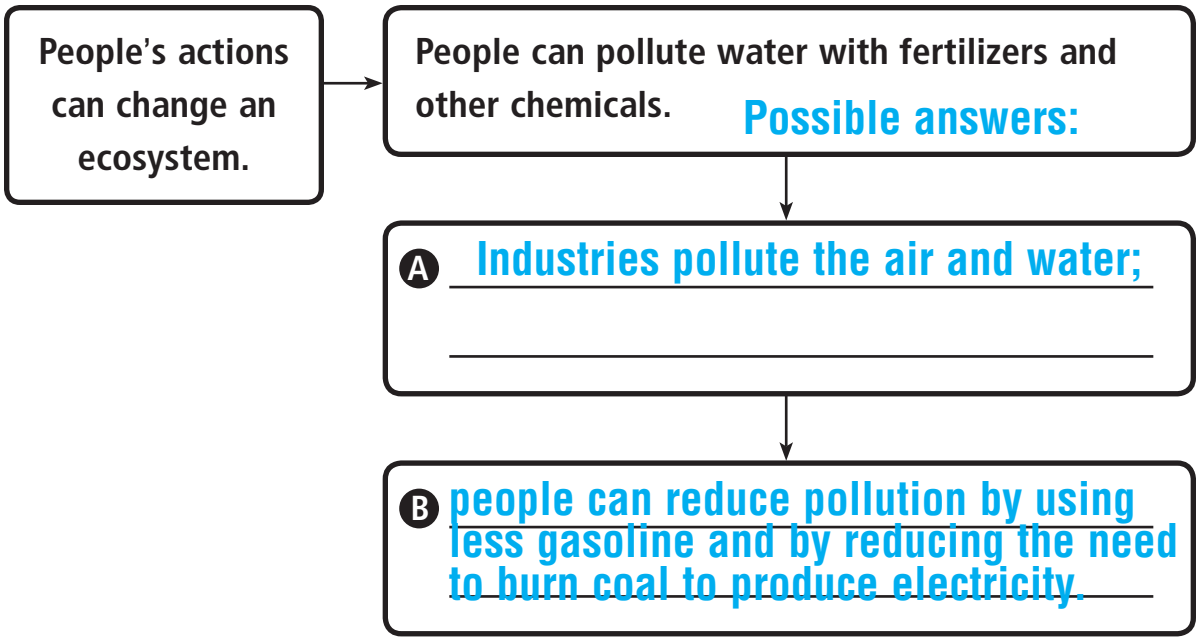
Possible answer: Recycling glass saves 30 percent of the energy needed to make it. Recycled paper takes 20 percent less energy to make. Recycling aluminum saves 96 percent of the energy needed to make cans.

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4. Main Idea and Details

Complete the graphic organizer below.



5. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

Keiko's grandfather was cleaning out his basement. He wanted to throw out old clothes, books, and coffee mugs. Keiko told her grandfather that it is better to reuse resources than to dump them in a landfill. How could these resources be reused?

Possible answer: The old clothes could be donated to a homeless shelter. The books could be contributed to the library book sale. Keiko's family could reuse the coffee mugs to hold spare change or pens and pencils.

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