"Does science help improve the environment?"

We can’t overlook the amenities provided by science. Due to bad management and lack of proper technology the environment is polluted. But we should remember that without science, there would be no greater understanding of the world, no way to recognize problems and no viable means to fix them. Green technologies can help to reduce pollution; solar energy and wind energy can be used to harvest energy.

Deba Prasad Bera
Namkhana, West Bengal

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Science certainly helps improve the environment by bringing in new solutions. In the case of global warming, without science we could have gone round the earth hunting for a solution and ended up covering our own house! Ask for more scientific help and you have GM crops.

Rajiv Ratna Jha
Class-IX, J.K.G. International School Ghaziabad

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Science does not improve the environment. Every country says it’s a developing country but how? By polluting the environment? By releasing waste that cannot be degraded? Each year almost 400 million metric tons of hazardous wastes are generated by human activities only and with the help of science. Pesticides are harmful; DDT caused extinction of the Robin birds. Then there is acid rain and global warming due to release of CFCs.

Ali Baqar Zaidi
Gonda, Uttar Pradesh

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While studying science we get to know about our environment and we get cautioned about the activities that should not be done. For example, we are advised to use cycles for small distances rather than using motor vehicle as it causes environmental degradation.

Sameeran Sahu
DAV Public School, Cuttack

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Our earth would be a much worse place to live if science had not existed. If science did not exist then we would have never known things like pollution, global warming, need for reducing non biodegradable wastes etc. We would have remained indifferent to our environment and unknown to us, we may be affecting it severely.

Prashant Gokhale
R.N. Podar School, Mumbai

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Every scientific effort is for the welfare of mankind and the world. But sometimes it’s our mistakes and illegal practices that harm our environment. It’s hard to blame science for that. However, during the last few decades there has been great awareness to save the environment. Various institutes have been established, national parks, sanctuaries and reserves have been created, universities are providing education in environment subjects and substitutes to traditional fuels and energy resources, and chemical fertilizers have been discovered, all thanks to science.

Abhishek Soni
R.N. Podar School, Mumbai

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It is a mixed bag. On the one hand, science does its best to improve the environment. Biofertilizers, compressed natural gas, unleaded petrol and integrated waste management are all efforts of scientific principles directed towards curbing pollution. On the other hand, it is science only that has disintegrated the environment. Nuclear warheads, radioactive elements, synthetic polymers and artificial pesticides are all allergic to our environment and may have deteriorating effects in the future.

Mayukh Bagchi
Kolkata

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It is true that science has been instrumental in introducing conveniences in our daily life ranging from motor vehicles to mobiles, dynamites to detergents, ACs to PCs, plastics to perfumes. But at the same time, all the above conveniences contribute to pollution in one way or other. Fortunately, there is no priority for the environment in our country. Since scientific inventions and environmental pollution
are inseparable, it would be prudent if we think about minimizing the use of pollution-producing materials like ACs, fridges, electric lamps etc.

Partha Sarkar
Kolkata

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Science is needed to make our environment better. However, pollution, ozone layer depletion, global warming etc are all contributions of science. But they are caused due to misuse of science.

Samya Roy
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Science does not help to improve the environment. The more we progress in science, the more we destroy our environment. For example, factories are releasing harmful gases causing global warming, nuclear bomb was used for destruction, students are always watching TV, playing computer games and surfing Internet, which distract young minds and strain their eyes. Science has taken very few measures to develop our environment.

Dipayan Pal
Don Bosco, Bandel

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Environment is getting degraded by scientific improvement. Water pollution, air pollution, pesticides, loss of species, plastic waste, all pose problems for the environment.

C. S. Mahadevan
Mysore

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Thousands of years ago man was not able to understand our environment. For instance, we did not know what materials were biodegradable and what were not. We had no idea what effect we could have on the environment if we started recycling things like paper and plastic. Science has helped us in improving our environment tremendously by studying how our environment is affected by our presence.

Chandramauli
DAV, Allahabad

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In the past few centuries man, using science, has created enough pollution to make earth a dead planet. But fortunately man has started realising his mistake. Now, through science, various techniques like satellite imaging to organic food and using eco-friendly products to renewable energy have brought back the lost greenery.

Poulami Dutta Roy
Midnapore College

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The anthropocentric view relates to humans and their environment on the basis of human superiority, human need, resource availability and sustainability. The universal view does not place humans different from any other organism on this planet. The second view doesn’t need any improvement or science, because science is what we learnt from nature and its laws after observing various natural phenomena. Long before humans, the environment existed and was home for various organisms. But in the first view, science is more needed for protection of the environment.

Keeriman Singh
Air Force School, Allahabad

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Science finds solutions to problems that harm our earth. We are now recycling paper and plastic. Now we use solar energy. All these are gifts of science. Science is like a tool and we have to use it positively. Science does not create atomic bombs. It is man who applies the awesome destructive power of nuclear weapons to destroy human life.

Srijani Dan, Sian, Birbhum

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Although scientific research has caused harm to the environment to an extent, it has also found ways to improve the environment. With the help of science, alternative energy and fuel systems, measures for soil erosion, reduction of the affect of climate change and production of eco-friendly goods has evolved.

Ayushi Das
St. John’s Diocesan School, Kolkata

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Science and technological development have made life easy and solved many problems. But we have paid a big price for this development: forest cover on has been shrinking, ice on the glaciers is melting fast, emission of green house gases has damaged the earth’s atmosphere.

The need of the time is to apply scientific know-how so as to achieve maximum desired results in improving our environment.

Aditi Tikku
K.V. Hiranagar
Science has improved living conditions of man, by giving electricity, it has done wonderful work in the medical field, and given us means of recreation. But inventions of science should not be misused for the destruction of mankind. Mohit Verma Azamgarh (UP)

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Science has the potential to help the environment, from developing clean energy sources, to showing that dirty energy has polluted the environment and, potentially, caused climate change. Science helps us to learn the ways to protect our world. Sharad Sharma K.V. Hiranagar

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Without science, we would not be able to understand the environment. We need scientific evidence to improve the environment. Water quality tests, animal counts and erosion studies are necessary to determine the environment impact humans have on the earth. We need science to take proper measurements and draw conclusions. Otherwise, our policy makers have nothing to go by when making decisions about the environment and how to save it. Ritika Rishikesh K.V. Hiranagar

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We talk of improving the environment because it has become very sick. Scientific and technological advancements and industrialization have cursed the environment. How does the wrecker (I mean science!) help improve the environment? Of course. It is helping to make good the loss. These days work is being done to eliminate or to reduce environmental pollutants, friendly disposal techniques are being researched and environment friendly technologies are being encouraged and developed. Environmental sciences is growing and helping purify and heal the environment. Fazil Fayaz B.Sc (H) Geology, A.M.U, Aligarh

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Science can be of great help. In arid regions like Rajasthan, chemical scientists can create clouds which can bring plenty of rainfall. Artificial trees, wind generating devices, solar energy storing devices can also be created. Samgana P. Johnson Grammar Senior School, Hyderabad

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There are many machines which help in cleaning the environment. Science can be used to create techniques or objects that help in the reduction of pollution. Rapid growth in population has increased the needs and wants of man which can be reduced by scientific methods like alternate ways of generating more electricity from coal, sunlight etc. Sushmitha Johnson Grammar Senior School, Hyderabad

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Disadvantages of science are more than its advantages. For example, the more we develop our technologies, the more diseases are being discovered. More and more development is polluting the environment. If air conditioners would not have been invented, CFCs would not have been released, and we would have had a very clean atmosphere today. Many people in the world would be free from many respiratory diseases. P. Sai Tejaswini Snigdha Johnson Grammar Senior School, Hyderabad

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During the last two decades, with the magic stick of technological revolution, every scientific device has been improved but at the cost of compromising environmental ethics. The amount of e-garbage is rapidly increasing. People talk about Reuse, Reduce and Recycle but we are involved in a rat race of “Replacement”. We replace one year old gadgets with new versions, although the old one is at its rated performance. Such type of competitive mentality should be “Replaced”. Sanjan Banerjee Haldia Institute of Technology

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Ever since the beginning of life on earth, science has always helped the environment to improve. We are able to know about the causes of environmental degradation or pollution through science. The modern scientific concept of Green Earth, for instance, is an outcome of careful scientific studies and examinations carried out by scientists all over the world. So, it is not science that harms the earth, but the misuse of science carried out by humans. Saumya Ranjan Jha Bumpur (West Bengal)

Increasing temperatures, melting glaciers, unpredictable monsoons and irregular seasonal patterns and major natural disasters disrupting life and damaging property are clear indications of our environment subjected to degradation, unknowingly by mankind. But, like a true friend science warned us of our mistake and its consequences. It played a vital role in detecting the causes of this depletion and curbing it from the source. It has aided scientists in taking preventive steps and achieving sustainable development. Engineers have employed science as a tool to devise ways and means to design and develop environment friendly technologies assisting growth. Science has made us aware of the importance of using renewable and environment friendly sources of energy instead of conventional ones, preferring biodegradable paper against plastics, riding cycles instead of lead and petrol driven vehicles and using energy efficiently instead of wasting it. In the present scenario, science seems to be the best option to preserve the environment for the future generations to come. Nayanshree Choube UIT-RGPV, Bhopal

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