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Diffusion Tubes Student Worksheet



Facts

- Air pollution is unwanted chemicals, gases, and particles in our air.
- Diffusion tubes measure air pollution.
- The type of air pollution they measure is called nitrogen dioxide.
- It mostly comes from vehicle (car) exhausts.

Think

At school, where do you think you would find:

- The most air pollution?
- The least air pollution?



Activity

1. Decide where to put the diffusion tubes. Think about where you will get the most CONTRAST in the results – where do you think you will get low readings? Where do you think you'll get high readings?
2. Put them up and leave for 2-4 weeks.
3. Remove and send off to a science laboratory and wait for the results.

Location of Diffusion Tube	Prediction (give each site a number - 1 for the lowest and 4 for the highest level of NO ₂) – Why do you think this?	Result – the level of nitrogen dioxide we found. Next to the results give each site a number – 1 for the lowest and 4 for the highest – was your prediction correct?

Teachers:

Please see 'Diffusion tube' sheet in the 'BCP Clean Air schools' toolkit for further guidance and recommendations on using diffusion tubes. Link to toolkit: www.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/cleanair

