

Name _____

The Silent Threat: Understanding the Impact of Air Pollution on Human Health

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Air pollution can affect children differently than adults due to their developing bodies and immune systems. Children are more susceptible to the effects of air pollution because they breathe in more air relative to their body size and spend more time outdoors. Their developing organs and immune systems make them more vulnerable to respiratory issues and other health problems caused by air pollution.
2. One strategy that individuals can take to reduce their exposure to air pollution is to limit outdoor activities during times of high pollution levels, such as during rush hour or on days with poor air quality forecasts. Additionally, using alternative transportation methods like walking, biking, or taking public transit can help reduce vehicle emissions and personal exposure to pollution.
3. Long-term exposure to air pollution can have various health implications, including respiratory problems, cardiovascular diseases, reduced lung function, and an increased risk of premature death. To address these issues, society can implement policies to reduce emissions from vehicles and industrial sources, invest in clean energy technologies, and promote sustainable transportation and urban planning practices.
4. Policymakers should take action to reduce air pollution, especially in densely populated urban areas, to protect public health and improve overall quality of life. High levels of air pollution can have serious health consequences for residents, leading to respiratory problems, cardiovascular diseases, and other health issues. By implementing measures to reduce emissions from vehicles, industry, and other sources, policymakers can help create cleaner and healthier environments for communities to thrive.

