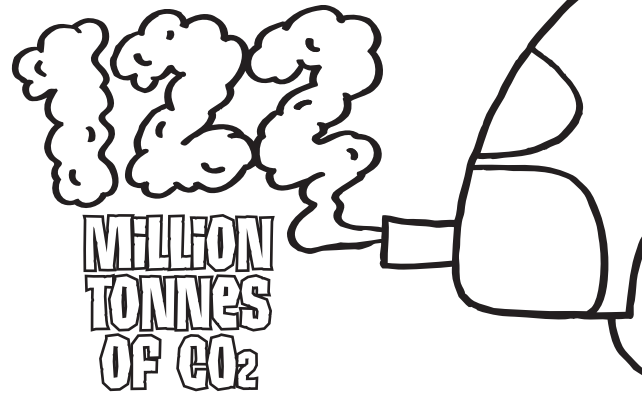


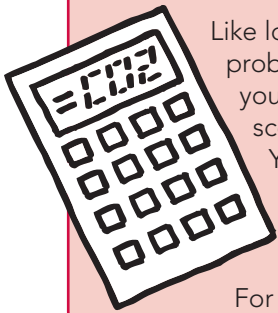
TRANSPORT

Cars are really convenient - especially as you start growing up and doing more stuff out and about with your mates. But every journey you take by car adds to the 122 million tonnes of CO₂ that transport in the UK produces every year. So what are the alternatives and how can you cut down the car miles that you use?



Car-BON EMISSIONS

DISCUSSING



Like lots of other kids your age, you probably get your parents to drive you all over the place - to school, to scouts/guides and to your friends. You've probably never thought about the environmental impact of these journeys - but it is easy to work out.

For your next meeting, find out

exactly what car your parents or guardians drive, including make, model and engine size. Then find out how much CO₂ this car produces by visiting www.vccarfueldata.org.uk

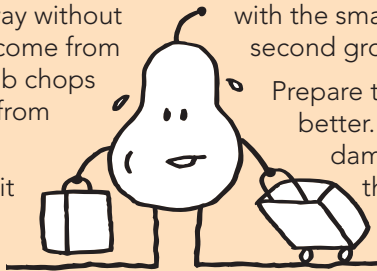
Keep a record of the journeys you've done that week and draw up a chart to see how much CO₂ you produce each week, individually and all together. You'll be surprised! How much of this could be saved by walking or cycling instead?

Figure out the FOOD MILES

KNOWING

Moving food around creates lots of CO₂, but often we pick food from far away without thinking. Some of our vegetables come from as far away as Kenya, and your lamb chops may have come around the world from New Zealand.

Split into two groups and pay a visit to your local supermarket to buy the ingredients for a simple meal.



The first group should try and create a meal with the smallest number of food miles, and the second group, the largest.

Prepare the two meals and see which tastes better. Is the second meal worth the extra damage to the environment? Could the food miles of the first meal have been reduced even further by buying locally grown produce?

Take your friends for a ride

DOING

Print off a map of your local area and get everyone to mark where they live. What is the shortest route to your meeting place and school? How do you normally get to these places? Is it possible to walk or cycle the route instead of getting a lift by car? By walking or cycling you'll get to know your local area better, reduce your carbon footprint, do exercise and get in your parent's good books too by cutting the number of lifts they have to give you and the fuel they have to buy. If you're starting to use

your bike more why not have a go at completing the cyclist badge!

To help offset the carbon footprint of the car journeys you can't avoid, find a suitable woodland area near your meeting place and arrange to plant a few trees. Scouts, you could think about linking up with another section to complete the Group Environment Award.

