



Winter Issue ❄ January 2005



Kids 4 Clean Air

We care about kids and clean air! So do our sponsors: Ajo Bikes, Audobon Nature Shop, Funtastics Family Fun Park, Golf 'n Stuff, Picurro Pizzeria, Cactus Bowl, Fiesta Lanes, Lucky Strike Bowl, Santa Cruz Lanes, and Tucson Bowl.
Produced by Pima County Environmental Services Department Clean Air Program.
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What's a Temperature Inversion?

Have you ever noticed that when you walk or bike down a dip in the road that it is cooler in the bottom of the dip than on top? That's kind of like a temperature inversion: when cooler air is trapped below warmer air. It's most common in winter, as the night cools the air, and it takes a while for the sun to heat up the cool air and ground the next day.

The problem is that the cooler air is trapped when people are getting ready for their day, driving to school and work. The pollution, or dirty air, from vehicles gets trapped in the cooler air, and that's the air we breathe. Later, when the sun heats up the ground and lower air, the pollution won't be trapped and will rise and spread out.



Jokes



What do you get when you cross a vampire with a snowman? - Francesca, age 6
Frostbite.

A teacher was grading a test and he realized that Andrea had copied from Samantha. So he walked up to Andrea and said, "You copied Samantha." "No I didn't," she replied. "Yes you did because on #1 she marked 'A' and you marked 'A'." "So." "On #2 she marked 'B' and you marked 'B'." "So." "And on #3 she wrote 'I don't know' and you put 'Neither do I.'" - Kylie, age 11

INFO FEATURE: Wizard's Corner



We need more than spells and magic to help clean the air. The "Wizard of Air" is here with answers to your every day air questions.

Q: *My mom drives me to school. If I walked to school, it wouldn't make much difference, would it? It's just one extra car.*

A: If you live close enough to school, you can walk or bike safely, and your parents say it's okay, we recommend that you skip the ride from your mom. You'd be helping the air in more ways than one. First, you'd reduce the amount of miles the car drives and pollutes. Secondly, you'd be reducing the amount of cars idling at the school. Idling is when you're parked, but the engine is still on. Idling makes a lot of dirty air (air pollution). If you still need a lift, have your mom turn the car off as you say good-bye, and when she waits for you at the end of the day. Or, park a block away and walk the rest of the way to school. Another way to drive and reduce air pollution is to share rides with school mates who live in your neighborhood. That's called carpooling.

Brain Busters: How Much Pollution Can I Save?

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 th___r___, ___w___ld s___v___b___t 7.4 p___nds ___f p___ll___t___n

 ___n ___y___r.

M___m c___ld s___v___p t___ 11 p___nds ___f p___ll___t___n ___f sh___

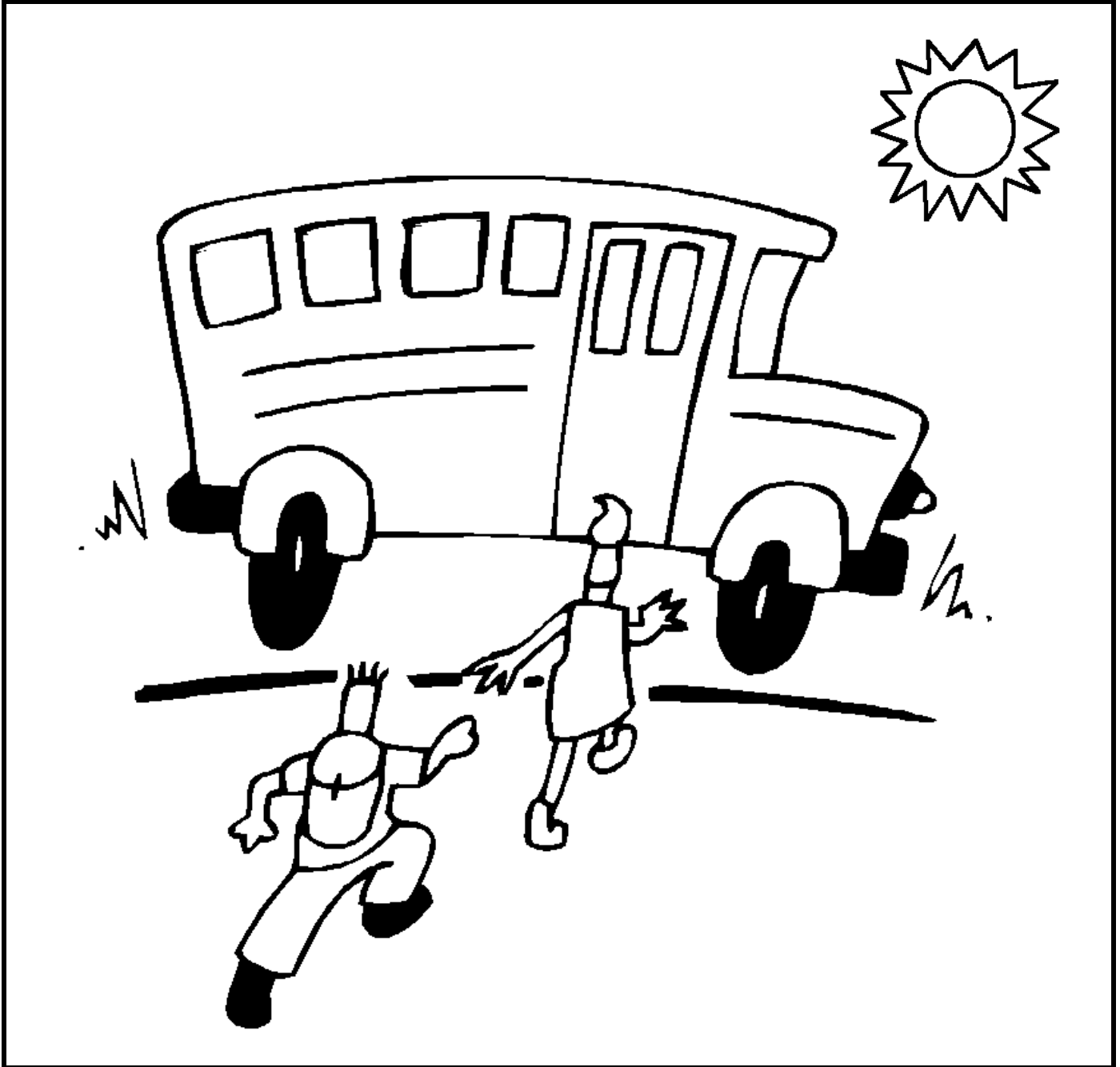
 t___rn___d___ff th___c___r wh___l___dr___pp___ng m___ff ___nd p___ck___ng

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___f___v___ry___n___n my cl___ss st___pp___d___dl___ng ___r d___dn't dr___v___

 t___sch___l, ___w___ld b___br___th___ng h___lth___r___r!

FUN FEATURE: Color Me School Bus



What Are Schools Doing to Keep the Air Clean?

Tucson Unified and Amphitheater Unified School Districts have school bus idling reduction programs to keep their busses from idling too much. This helps clean the air, and keeps kids healthier. Call 740-3343 for more information.

Many parents still idle their cars. Some are even known to idle for 10 minutes while waiting to pick up their kids at the end of the day. This means that one car can create over 11 pounds of pollution each year from just sitting there with the engine on. Guess who breathes in all that pollution?



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Look Inside:
 Temperature Inversion,
 Jokes, Wizard's Corner,
 Brain Busters, Fun
 Features, Special Events

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Special Events: Save the Date!

Clean Air Fair April 1-4, 2005

Enjoy doing your part to reduce air pollution. This event offers walks, rides, bird watching, nature walks, prizes, free zoo admissions, Jamboree (April 3 at Reid Park DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center), and more. Click on www.tucsonaz.gov/caf or call 740-3947 for the schedule of activities.

Earth Day Festival and Parade April 16, 2005

Come to the Tucson Children's Museum and Armory Park from 9am - 1pm. Enjoy free music, displays, activities, parade (10:00), recycled art show, and more. Additional information can be found at www.saems.org/Earthday.

GLOBE

Fun, environmental-based, hands-on field study trips at Agua Caliente Park. Ask your teacher about signing up. For more information call 877-6122.

Circle Time

Look at the pictures and circle the ones that are related to air.



Great! Circle them all because they are all related to air in some way. Can you think of how each one uses or needs air?

Cars—pollute air. If maintained they pollute less.
 Carpooling—Sharing rides pollute less.
 Kids and Adults—breathe air, choices affect air.
 Butterfly—breathes air and flies.
 Flag—flaps in wind.
 Sailboat—uses wind to move.
 Dog—breathes air.
 Kite—uses wind to float in air.
 Horn—uses air to make music, and to hear it.