

Answer Key – Agriculture

Negative impacts agriculture has on the environment:

- Habitat destruction
- Soil erosion
- Pesticide and fertilizer runoff into streams, rivers etc.
- Salinization (accumulation of salts in the soil)
- Land degradation
- Air pollution – pesticide spray pollution, greenhouse gas emissions etc.
- Water waste, aquifer depletion
- Human health – contamination of drinking water supplies through the use of pesticides, fertilizers and livestock waste

Positive outcomes agriculture provides:

- Provides jobs
- More food (meat, vegies) and fibre production to support a bigger population
- Help to stop malnutrition in poorer countries
- Provide wildlife habitat for some species
- Human nutrition and higher standard of living for many people
- Bigger centres (towns, cities) for trade and government purposes
- Improves the overall economy of the country

Suggested Activities:

Make an agriculture flowchart showing the beginning-to-end result e.g. natural bushland- to-clearing-to-livestock-to-land degradation etc.

Outcomes:

English – reading, writing

Science – negative and positive impacts of agriculture

Art – drawing an agricultural scene