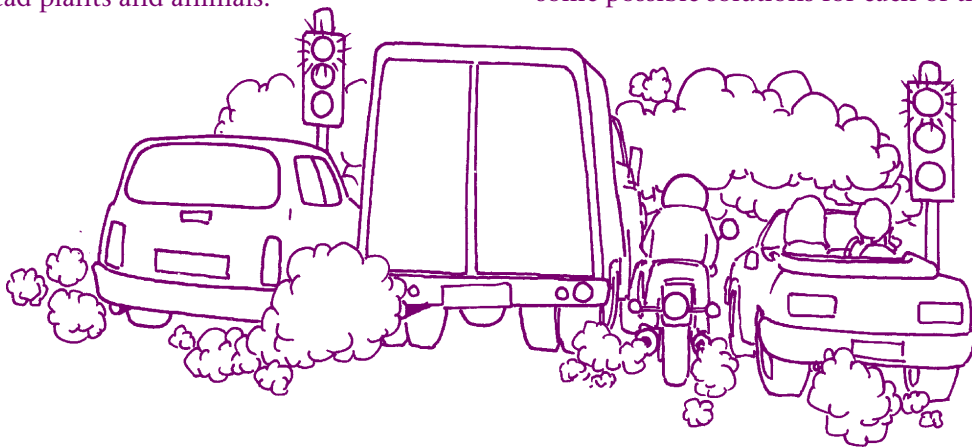


Fact Sheet No. 13

ENERGY AND TRANSPORT

You have grown up in a world where transport is dominated by vehicles using petrol or other forms of crude oil such as diesel and aircraft fuel. Oil is one of the 'fossil fuels' formed millions of years ago by the burial and decay of dead plants and animals.

Can you imagine a world without oil? What if this happens in your lifetime? What are some solutions for this problem? In the table below, you will find three of the main reasons for a decrease in the use of oil and some possible solutions for each of these causes.



Reasons for the decreased consumption of oil	Possible solutions
<p>Crude oil is a non-renewable resource. It is estimated that oil is being used at such a rate that all known reserves may be used up in the not-too-distant future.</p> <p>We need to start thinking about alternative fuels for transport.</p>	<p>We could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop motors that use less fuel. • Conserve supplies of oil by driving more carefully and maintaining cars well. • Use renewable forms of fuel.
<p>Burning petroleum in engines causes air pollution. A number of invisible gases are released into the air through exhaust fumes. These can cause damage to the environment and serious health problems for many people. We need to use less petrol for the sake of our health and the earth.</p>	<p>We could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use less fuel by using different forms of transport such as bicycles. • Use cleaner fuel such as LPG. • Develop new clean forms of transport.
<p>As more and more vehicles are used on our roads, people begin to demand more and wider roads. Motor transport uses lots of useful space, and can result in traffic jams and accidents, frustration and stress. We need fewer cars on the road in order to improve our lifestyle.</p>	<p>We could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage people to use public transport or to carpool to work. • Have lanes devoted only to buses. • Make it harder for people to take cars into city centres. • Redesign our cities so that people have easier access to places they wish to go. • Encourage people to work from home, or have different start/finish times for workers.