APES- Internet Activity "Toxics in Your Neighborhood"
Name:

Purpose: *Research and analyze local environmental and toxicology risks, determine their sources, determine environmental and potential health impacts, and examine potential solutions.*

Go to the website: http://scorecard.org
1: Type in your **zip code**

2: Under the **"toxics" category**- click on the link, ***"See how your county stacks up".***
List the 6 categories and relative percentage ranking for San Diego County.

     1.
     2.
     3.
     4.
     5.
     6.
Did the results surprise you at all, why or why not?

3: Click on the ***"other chemical release and waste management attributes" link***. List the categories for which San Diego falls in the Dirtiest/Worst counties in the United States **(80-100%).** *How do you account for these levels being so high?*

4: List the categories for which San Diego scores well in terms of environmental pollutants **(less than 20%).** *Why do you think the levels of these pollutants are so much better here in San Diego?* **Explain.**

5: Click the back button on your browser to get back to the pollution report card for your zip code. Click on the link ***"the top polluters" in your county***. List the top 10 polluters in San Diego County. *What do you know about these companies? What do they manufacture?*

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

6: Go back to the report card page and click on the ***"top chemicals released" link***, and list the top 5 chemicals released in San Diego.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

7: Go back to the report card page and locate the air pollution section. Click on the ***"How many days a year is your air unhealthy"? link.*** How many days did San Diego have **good air quality? _____Moderate? _____ Unhealthy? _____**

List the three major pollutants you think are responsible for reduced air quality in San Diego.

8: Go back to the report card page and find the water quality section. Click on the ***"See how your county's water quality stacks up" link.*** *What are the two categories and percentages listed?*

9: Scroll down the page and locate the top two pollutants and percentages for **(rivers, lakes and creeks) category**, the **(lakes, reservoirs, and ponds) category** and **(estuaries, bays and coasts) category.** *List some ideas as to the source of the potential water pollutants here in San Diego.*

10: Go to the URL: http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/. This site is the San Diego County Office of Environmental Health.
Describe the role of this office:

11: Type or click on the URL: http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/deh/hazmat/hhw.html. Read the information on **"What is Hazardous Waste?"** and list 8 common household items that are classified as hazardous waste. *How many of these do you have in your house? Indicate which are in your home. (*)*

12: Click on the hazardous materials pollution prevention link: http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/hazmat/pollution_prevent.html. *In your opinion, what three pieces of prevention advice are the best/most relevant? Why?*

13: Click on the **Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Facilities** link and list 3 certified disposal sites in San Diego.

14: Go to http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/hazmat/chd_hhw_sharps.html. *What are sharps? How and where should sharps be disposed of? What are some dangers sharps present?*

15: Go to http://www.earth911.org/master.asp. Look around the page and do a little research on **electronics and battery hazardous waste**. *What are some of the problems with these types of waste? What are the recycling/disposal options?*

Conclusion: *Write a conclusion about your reaction to this information. Were you surprised? What bothers you most? What are some potential solutions?*