

**Children's Environmental Attitude and Knowledge Scale
(CHEAKS)**

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Verbal Commitment

1. I would be willing to stop buying some products to save animals' lives.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

2. I would **not** be willing to save energy by using less air conditioning.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

3. To save water, I would be willing to use less water when I bathe.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

4. I would **not** give \$15 of my own money to help the environment.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

5. I would be willing to ride the bus to more places in order to reduce air pollution.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

6. I would not be willing to separate family's trash for recycling.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

7. I would give \$15 of my own money to help protect wild animals.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

8. To save energy, I would be willing to use dimmer lights.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

9. To save water, I would be willing to turn off the water while I wash my hands.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

10. I would go from house to house to pass our environmental information.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

11. I would be willing to write letters asking people to help reduce pollution.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

12. I would be willing to go from house to house asking people to recycle.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true
 - (3) not sure
 - (4) mostly false
 - (5) very false

Actual Commitment

13. I have **not** written someone about a pollution problem.
 - (1) very true
 - (2) mostly true

- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

14. I have talked with my parents about how to help with environmental problems.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

15. I turn off the water in the sink while I brush my teeth to conserve water.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

16. To save energy, I turn off lights at home when they are not in use.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

17. I have asked my parents **not** to buy products made from animal fur.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

18. I have asked my parents to recycle some of the things we use.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

19. I have asked others what I can do to help reduce pollution.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

20. I have often read stories that are mostly about the environment.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false
21. I do **not** let a water faucet run when it is not necessary.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false
22. I leave the refrigerator open while I decide what to get out.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false
23. I have put up a birdhouse near my house.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false
24. I do **not** separate things at home for recycling.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false

Affect

25. I am frightened to think people don't care about the environment.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false
26. I get angry about the damage pollution does to the environment.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true

- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

27. It makes me happy when people recycle used bottles, cans, and paper.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

28. I get angry when I think about companies testing products on animals.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

29. It makes me happy to see people trying to save energy.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

30. I am **not** worried about running out of water.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

31. I do **not** worry about environmental problems.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

32. I am **not** frightened about the effects of pollution on my family.

- (1) very true
- (2) mostly true
- (3) not sure
- (4) mostly false
- (5) very false

33. I get upset when I think of the things people throw away that could be recycled.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false
34. It makes me sad to see houses being built where animals used to live.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false
35. It frightens me to think how much energy is wasted.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false
36. It upsets me when I see people use too much water.
(1) very true
(2) mostly true
(3) not sure
(4) mostly false
(5) very false

Knowledge

37. Most elephants are killed every year to provide people with
(1) trophies.
(2) ivory.
(3) oil.
(4) skin.
38. Burning coal for energy is a problem because it:
(1) releases carbon dioxide and other pollutants into the air.
(2) decreases needed acid rain.
(3) reduces the amount of ozone in the stratosphere.
(4) is too expensive.
(5) pollutes the water in aquifers.
39. Ecology assumes that man is what part of nature?
(1) special
(2) related to all other parts
(3) not important

- (4) the best part
- (5) the first part

40. Phosphates are harmful in sea water because they:
- (1) cause cancer in fish.
 - (2) stop reproduction in fish.
 - (3) make fish nervous.
 - (4) make the water cloudy.
 - (5) suffocate fish by increasing algae.
41. Compared to other paper, recycled paper:
- (1) takes more water to make.
 - (2) takes less energy to make.
 - (3) is less expensive to buy.
 - (4) is harder to write on.
 - (5) produces more pollution.
42. The most pollution of our water sources is caused by:
- (1) dams on rivers.
 - (2) chemical runoff from farms.
 - (3) methane gas.
 - (4) leaks in the sewers.
 - (5) human and animal wastes.
43. Ecology is the study of the relationship between:
- (1) different species of animals.
 - (2) plants and the atmosphere.
 - (3) organisms and their environments.
 - (4) man and other animals.
 - (5) man and the environment.
44. The most common poisons found in water are:
- (1) arsenic, silver nitrates.
 - (2) hydrocarbons.
 - (3) carbon monoxide.
 - (4) sulfur, calcium.
 - (5) nitrates, phosphates.
45. Where does most of the garbage go after it is dumped from the garbage trucks?
- (1) to an aquifer where it is buried
 - (2) it is dumped into the ocean
 - (3) it is recycled to make plastic
 - (4) to a landfill where it is buried
 - (5) to farmers to use for fertilizers

46. Which is most responsible for creating acid rain?
(1) sulfur dioxide
(2) carbon dioxide
(3) ozone
(4) nitrogen
(5) ultraviolet radiation
47. Catching tuna in the ocean:
(1) is eliminating a main food source for whales.
(2) protects baby sea turtles.
(3) also kills many dolphins.
(4) is now against the law.
(5) is necessary to keep the population size down.
48. Which is an example of a perpetual energy source?
(1) nuclear
(2) oil
(3) wood
(4) uranium
(5) solar
49. Which of the following is the most dangerous to the earth's environment?
(1) damming rivers
(2) overpopulation
(3) tornadoes
(4) household pets
(5) nuclear power plants
50. Most of the lead in our air is caused by:
(1) cars
(2) industrial plants
(3) airplanes
(4) burning refuse
(5) cigarettes
51. Precycling means that:
(1) people buy things that can be used again.
(2) more people should ride bicycles.
(3) small children should wear the clothes of their older brothers or sisters.
(4) items should be tested before we buy them.
(5) environmental changes are always taking place.
52. Animals alive today are most likely to become extinct because:
(1) natural selection kills weaker animals.
(2) where they live is getting too warm.
(3) they are unable to reproduce because of pollution.

- (4) the habitat where they live is destroyed.
- (5) their food supply is destroyed by acid rain.

53. Coal and petroleum are examples of:
- (1) fossil fuels.
 - (2) renewable sources of energy.
 - (3) energy sources that are plentiful.
 - (4) alternative sources of energy.
 - (5) recycled resources.
54. Environmental problems are a threat to:
- (1) mostly people in small countries.
 - (2) only people who live in cities.
 - (3) only wild animals and endangered species.
 - (4) mostly tropical plants and animals.
 - (5) all living things in the world.
55. Which of the following does not do much to reduce the pollution by automobiles?
- (1) properly tuned engine
 - (2) high octane gas
 - (3) low lead gas
 - (4) smog control devices
 - (5) propane engines
56. The main problem with landfills is that they:
- (1) take up too much space.
 - (2) are ugly to look at and smell bad.
 - (3) attract rats and others pests.
 - (4) prevent farming of nearby land.
 - (5) do not produce enough methane.
57. Building a dam on a river can be harmful because it:
- (1) makes the river muddy.
 - (2) can no longer be used to make electricity.
 - (3) increases level of pollution on the water.
 - (4) causes the river to flood.
 - (5) damages the river's natural ecosystem.
58. Where is water under the ground found?
- (1) in landfills
 - (2) in ponds
 - (3) in low pressure areas
 - (4) in aquifers
 - (5) in rivers

59. Killing animals like wolves that eat others:
- (1) is necessary and should be done.
 - (2) may increase the number of other animals.
 - (3) does not affect other animals in the area.
 - (4) may decrease the number of other animals.
 - (5) will help protect the environment.
60. A good example of a nonrenewable resource is:
- (1) petroleum.
 - (2) trees.
 - (3) ocean water.
 - (4) sunlight.
 - (5) animals raised for food.
61. Most air pollution in our big cities comes from:
- (1) cars.
 - (2) jet planes.
 - (3) factories.
 - (4) big trucks.
 - (5) landfills.
62. An item which cannot be recycled and used again is:
- (1) disposable diapers.
 - (2) newspapers.
 - (3) aluminum cans.
 - (4) motor oil.
 - (5) plastic bottles.
63. What is the main problem with the use of aquifers for a water supply?
- (1) they recharge too quickly
 - (2) they are becoming used up
 - (3) they contain too much fresh water
 - (4) they contain too much salt water
 - (5) it is hard to get the water out
64. A species that no longer exists is:
- (1) protected.
 - (2) endangered.
 - (3) abundant.
 - (4) extinct
 - (5) wild game.
65. Which uses the most energy in an average house in the United States?
- (1) lights
 - (2) TV
 - (3) hot water heater
 - (4) telephone

(5) refrigerator

66. Which of the following groups is most interested in environmental issues?
- (1) Boy Scouts of America
 - (2) The Sierra Club
 - (3) Kiwanis
 - (4) 4-H Club
 - (5) American Cancer Society