

DARK SKIES, HAPPY ANIMALS

YOUR MISSION: Protect animals by keeping the night sky dark

1. Talk about what artificial lights we see at night. If needed, prompt with examples such as: *street lights, lights from people's houses, lights on in store windows*. Explain the concept of "light pollution".
2. Discuss how light at night can confuse animals and make it more difficult for them to live and find food. For example:
 - *Nocturnal animals, like bats and owls need darkness to hunt and stay safe.*
 - *Birds can get confused by bright lights and fly towards them. They might get lost or fly into buildings.*
 - *Insects like moths are attracted to lights. They fly around the lights instead of looking for food, which makes it harder for them to survive.*
 - *Turtles can get disoriented by bright lights on the beach and head in the wrong direction, away from the ocean.*
3. Ask students to share ideas on how they can help reduce light pollution.
4. Have each student pledge to make one change to help reduce light pollution using **the pledges on the next page** or create posters to remind their school/family/local businesses/community centres to turn off the lights at night (**see Lights Out poster template**).

Explaining light pollution to kids

Light pollution is when there are too many lights at night. This confuses animals that need darkness to sleep, find food, or travel. When bright lights are everywhere, animals can get lost or scared.



Some ways kids can help reduce light pollution

- Turn off lights when they don't need them.
- Use dim lights instead of bright lights.
- Close curtains or blinds to keep light inside.
- Tell their family about light pollution.
- Encourage their family to use motion-sensor outdoor lights or lights that point toward the ground.



DARK SKIES, HAPPY ANIMALS

Pledge

**I pledge to _____
to help reduce light pollution.**

Name:

Signature:

Date:

**I pledge to _____
to help reduce light pollution.**

Name:

Signature:

Date:

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to help reduce light pollution.**

Name:

Signature:

Date:

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to help reduce light pollution.**

Name:

Signature:

Date:

**I pledge to _____
to help reduce light pollution.**

Name:

Signature:

Date:



**SPRING
QUEST**

Lights out!

A large, empty rectangular area with rounded corners and a thin red border, intended for a drawing or activity.