

## Title: Friendly to the Environment and the Neighbors

I will be able to: identify environmental regulations and ways gravel pits are good neighbors

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Government Regulations: ..... Activity 17

Gravel pits must obey many rules designed to make sure the workers, neighbors, water and roads are protected. The following is a list of some of the government and public groups that have a say about opening a new aggregate mine.

- Dept of Mines** - approves the opening of new mines
  - reviews the total plan to be sure the gravel pit plan is a good one
- Dept. of Highways** -
  - can the roads near the gravel pit handle the large trucks
  - will traffic be safe
- First Nations** -
  - involved with new pits on land that is part of land claims
  - archaeological findings are protected
- Municipal government/police**
  - pits are not too noisy or dusty
  - trucks cover their loads
  - trucks drive safely
  - the truck route is safe
  - hours of operation
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans**
  - waterways are protected from sand and dirt harming fish
  - barges of gravel can travel safely
- Ministry of the Environment**
  - groundwater/streams/wildlife is protected
- Reclamation:** when the gravel is gone, the land is reclaimed so it continues to be valuable
  - lakes/ponds/restocked with fish
  - agricultural land: graded/top soil returned
  - housing/commercial buildings in cities
  - parks/playing fields
  - forestry: topsoil returned/trees planted

**Classroom use:** the regulatory bodies/rules listed above are some of the controls on the Aggregate industry. The Students should understand that there are protections in place for the public. Review this page orally with the students and to assist them to understand what the purpose of the rules are. As well, each control costs money and time to satisfy it. Sometimes, neighbors or activists will never agree to want a gravel pit near by. NIMBY - not in my back yard...

**Gravel Pits can be Good Neighbors: ... Activity 18**

Thoughtful gravel pit operators do many things that show they care about their neighbors and the community they operate in. Discuss how these measures might be helpful.

- spray water on roads inside the gravel pit to keep dust down
- use truck wheel washes to remove dust/stone before they leave the property
- tarp (cover) their trucks or use a water spray bar to wet the load
- hide the gravel pit from the road by leaving trees around the edges
- stop noise travelling with high dirt banks planted with trees around the gravel pit
- locate the crusher far from neighbors
- operate only within daytime hours
- purchase homes immediately next door to gravel pits
- reclaim land quickly so it looks good and is useful to the community
- offer to upgrade access roads at company expense to ensure the roads are safe and can handle the large trucks
- have trucks avoid roads past schools and residential areas where possible
- ensure drivers operate with courtesy
- invest in the community with donations of materials/time/money
- develop school field trips to tour the gravel pit
- offer aggregate materials at discounts to neighbors
- hire local workers
- protect significant wildlands even if not strictly required by law

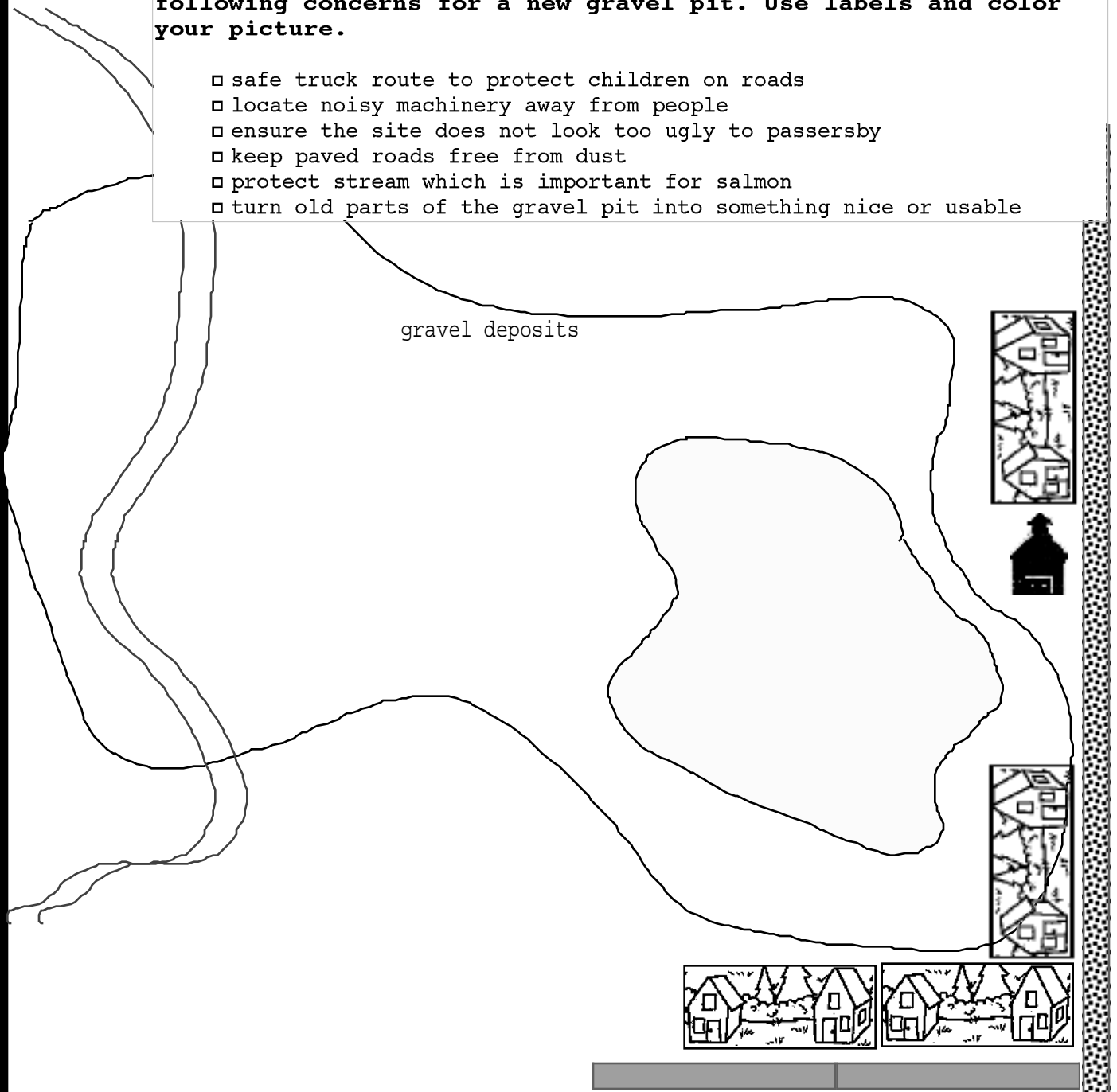
**Poster Persuasion      Activity 19**

**Poster:** Students in pairs create a poster appealing to the community to **Approve or Disapprove** a proposal for a new gravel pit. The posters could be judged by another class or the local gravel pit owner as to which group makes a better persuasive case for thier viewpoint. Perhaps a small prize for the winning side. The posters could be donated to the gravel operation to be posted in thier office.

Neat      \_\_\_/5      Lettering      \_\_\_/5      Coloring      \_\_\_/5  
Illustrations      \_\_\_/5      Originality      \_\_\_/5      Persuasive      \_\_\_ /25  
Total      \_\_\_/50

On the following page, draw how you would take care of the following concerns for a new gravel pit. Use labels and color your picture.

- safe truck route to protect children on roads
- locate noisy machinery away from people
- ensure the site does not look too ugly to passersby
- keep paved roads free from dust
- protect stream which is important for salmon
- turn old parts of the gravel pit into something nice or usable



**Heavens Just a Pit Away ...Activity # 20**

**LEGEND**

 stream     gravel removed



school



road



trees

## REGULATIONS AND FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS PICTURE

The picture provided can act as a standardized starting point for students to draw in solutions to the problems of gravel operations. A larger picture can be blown up on the copier or students can simply use a blank piece of paper.

What is critical to accomplish here is for students to demonstrate understandings of:

- people have legitimate concerns: noise, dust, traffic, visual
- the mining operations can do many things to lessen the impact of these concerns
- there is often more than one solution to the problem
- the issues are more complex than can be addressed on one small piece of paper.
- can students verbally describe their thinking behind the solutions to the problems



**Regulations and Friendly Neighbors** name \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTIVITY # 21**

**score** \_\_\_\_\_ /5

Place the letter of the Community Concern beside the proper Regulatory Body who looks after those things.

	Regulatory Body		Community Concern
	Municipal government	<b>a</b>	Has the proposed mine met all the required conditions for a permit?
	Ministry of Highways	<b>b</b>	Is there an aboriginal burial ground under the proposed gravel pit?
	Ministry of Mines	<b>c</b>	Will the machinery keep me awake at night with noise?
	First Nations Band	<b>d</b>	Will sand wash into the stream next to the gravel pit?
	Ministry of the Environment	<b>e</b>	Can the roads from the gravel pit handle the big trucks?