SS6G9 The student will discuss environmental issues in Europe.

Guided Reading (Acid Rain)

Germany is made up of old forests, winding rivers, and centuries old artwork and buildings. Many of these beautiful landmarks have been affected by acid rain. In the past 30 years, large forests have been damaged by acid rain. The famous Black forest has seen over half of its forest ruined. Soil in the Black Forest is now ruined, trees are diseased and at risk of dying. Sulfur and nitrogen found in Acid rain has eaten holes in many old statues and buildings. Rivers are now polluted and the wildlife living there is dying.

Germany causes much of the acid rain problems it has. Smoke from factories and power plants are the main source of acid rain. Germany depends on factories and manufacturing. It is one of the leading exporters of cars, steel, and chemical products. Unfortunately, these industries have mostly coal burning factories which add to the acid rain problem.

Toxic smoke from manufacturing plants is carried in the wind all across Germany and its neighbors. This toxic smoke falls to the earth in the form of acid rain. Laws have been passed in Germany to help prevent acid rain. Factories in southern Germany now use water to power the factories instead of coal. Cars now have to pass emissions tests in order to be used. Germany, as a part of the European Union has agreed to increase cleaner, renewable energy by 20%.

Germany is developing new types of energy. It is the leading producer of wind turbines and solar power technology in the world. This causes less harmful emissions and reduces the amount of acid rain.

Guided Reading Questions

1. How does nature play a role in Germany’s acid rain problem?
2. What are the main causes of acid rain?
3. What is Germany the leading exporter of?
4. What did Germany promise the European Union?
5. How does nature play a part in the acid rain problem?

Journal prompt- 50 word response to be written in your composition book. How do humans impact the environment and what do you do to help improve the environment?

Enrichment Activity

On the paper provided, draw a picture of what you think the Black Forest of Germany looked like before the Acid Rain problem.

Extension Activity

The President of Germany has come to you seeking help with the acid rain problem in Germany. With a partner, brainstorm ideas that will help cut down on the Acid Rain problem and come up with a campaign to help reduce acid rain. Write your ideas down in your interactive notebook