

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### HOW DO HUMANS IMPACT OUR ENVIRONMENT?

**DIRECTIONS:** In this activity, you will analyze how human activity has an environmental impact. Impacts can be positive, negative, or have a combination of both. Some human activities that affect the environment include: agriculture; forestry; ranching; mining; fishing; desalination; and wastewater treatment. These activities can sometimes result in the following negative human impacts: smog; ozone depletion; urbanization; and ocean acidification.

Read through the following scenarios and answer the questions in complete sentences.

A rancher in Texas has several thousand acres that he uses to raise cattle. The cattle frequently spend their day on the same 100 acres. The cattle graze all day, every day.

1. What type of human activity would this be? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What impact does this activity have on the environment? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Determine a solution that would help minimize the negative human impact. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A paper mill contracts with a local individual outside of Savannah, Georgia, to plant and harvest pine trees on their land. The land is cleared, and pine trees are planted on the land. At various intervals, the trees are harvested, and new trees are planted.

1. What type of human activity would this be? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What impact does this activity have on the environment? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Determine a solution that would help minimize the negative human impact. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In a country in South America, a company has found diamonds under the rainforest. The company has deforested the area and begun to mine the diamonds.

1. What type of human activity would this be? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What impact does this activity have on the environment? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Determine a solution that would help minimize the negative human impact. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

