

# Our Environment :Threats and Solutions .

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\*In this lesson , you will learn more information about the threats posed by changes to our environment and offer some of the possible solutions .



\***Shifting Sands**: In the 1930s , a severe drought hit the Great Plains of North America .

- For many years , this region had been developed by farmers to grow wheat .But then it stopped raining .Crops failed . The soil turned to dust .
- Wheat has shallow roots , and the roots were exposed during the heavy winds of the drought .
- These heavy winds picked up the dust and carried it across the land in thick clouds .

\*Farmers in the United states and Canada called them “Black blizzards “. During this time , this region was called the Dust Bowl .



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\*Scientists now know that the Dust Bowl was an early sign of **climate change**, which is a change in the average climate of a region over a long period of time .

- Earth is warming and that is causing many problems .Natural weather events , such as sand storms called haboobs , have taken place regularly in desert regions for thousand of years , but today they are much more intense , or powerful . Scientists believe this change is due to increased use of fossil fuels to generate power worldwide .



\*Three things are necessary for a haboob to form . First , there needs to be an area of land with a lot of loose sand or soil . Next ,conditions need to be very dry . Finally , there needs to be a strong wind to pick up the sand or soil and move it . These conditions occur more often in desert regions , but as Earth's temperature warms , they are taking place over wider areas .







\*In May 2022 , an enormous haboob spread over the Arabian Peninsula and reached the Red Sea . It lasted for days , and more than 1,000 people went to the hospital with breathing problems and other illnesses .