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## Environment Vocabulary

**Environmental** /ɪnˌvaɪərən'mentl/ (Adj) - Concerning the environment.

**Example:** People are much more aware of environmental issues today because of the influence of the media and the social network.

**Endangered species** /ɪn'deɪndʒəd 'spi:ʃi:z/ (N) - A species that is likely to become extinct in the near future.

**Example:** Because of habitat loss and poaching, the gorilla is now an endangered species.

**Extinct** /ɪks'tɪŋkt/ (Adj) - To no longer exist/live.

**Example:** Dinosaurs became extinct about 65 million years ago.

**Poaching** /'pəʊtʃɪŋ/ (N) - The illegal hunting and killing of animals.

**Example:** The poaching of animals for use in traditional medicine is illegal.

**Single-use plastic** /'sɪŋgl ju:z 'plæstɪk/ (N) - Plastic items that are used once then thrown away.

**Example:** Single-use plastic straws and water bottles are a major cause of marine pollution.

**Global** /'gləʊbəl/ (Adj) - Relating to the whole world.

**Example:** One of the major causes of the climate crisis is overpopulation, and it has become a global issue.

**Green belt** /gri:n bɛlt/ (N) - An area of countryside around a city or town where building is not allowed.

**Example:** The local authority refused permission to build a shopping mall on the green belt.

**Renewable energy** /rɪ'nju:əbl 'enədʒi/ (N) - Energy that is produced from natural sources such as the sun or wind.

**Example:** The government has invested heavily in renewable energy and plans to build a solar power plant.

**Artificial** /,ɑ:trɪ'fɪʃ(ə)l/ (Adj) - Something that is not natural.

**Example:** Artificial colors and preservatives have traditionally been added to a lot of food and research has shown the harmful effects of these.

**Solar power** /'səʊlə 'paʊə/ (N) - Electricity produced from the sun's energy.

**Example:** Every new house must have 30% of its energy generated through solar power.

## Environment: Idioms

**A storm in a teacup** - To worry and get upset about something that is not important.

**Example:** Making an issue about her behavior is a storm in a teacup. She was only following company procedure.



**A drop in the ocean** - An amount that is so small it makes very little difference.

**Example:** Our target is to raise \$20,000 for charity so your donation of \$5 is a drop in the ocean.

**Answer the call of nature** - To go to the toilet.

**Example:** Excuse me for a moment I need to answer the call of nature. Carry on with the meeting without me.



**A ray of sunshine** - Something that brings happiness.

**Example:** News of a salary increase was a ray of sunshine for the department after disappointing sales figures.

**Barking up the wrong tree** - To be wrong about how to achieve something or the reason for something.

**Example:** He thinks he will get a promotion if he has a close relationship with the boss but he's barking up the wrong tree.



**Calm before the storm** - A period of quiet before a time of serious problems.

**Example:** I need to prepare everything before the guests arrive in the calm before the storm.