

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

## Answer Key: Eco-Explorer Quest: 1st Grade Human-Environment Challenge

Moving beyond simple nature facts, young explorers synthesize how building bridges and planting rooftop gardens solves real-world community problems through creative action.

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**1. A mountain town gets very deep snow every winter. To keep their families safe and warm, what is the best thing the people should build?**

**Answer:** B) Steep, pointy roofs so snow slides off

Steep roofs are a smart way humans adapt to cold environments because they prevent heavy snow from crushing the house.

**2. Building a bridge over a river is a way humans change the land to help them travel.**

**Answer:** A) True

Building a bridge is a 'modification' because humans are changing the environment to solve a transportation problem.

**3. Imagine a big city with no space for parks. To bring nature back, people can plant a garden on \_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** C) a rooftop

Rooftop gardens are a creative way humans modify urban environments to provide oxygen and cool down buildings.

**4. People living in a very hot, sunny desert need to stay cool. Which choice shows they are adapting to the heat?**

**Answer:** B) Building houses with thick mud walls

Thick mud walls keep the inside of a house cool during the day, showing how humans use local materials to adapt to heat.

**5. If humans cut down every tree in a forest to build houses, the animals living there will still have plenty of food.**

**Answer:** B) False

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Modifying the environment by removing all trees has the consequence of taking away homes and food for wildlife.

**6. To get fresh water to farms that are far away from a lake, humans build a long \_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** B) canal

Canals are man-made waterways used to move water from one place to another to help crops grow.

**7. A community notices that trash is blowing into the local park. What is the BEST way for them to interact with their environment to fix this?**

**Answer:** C) Organize a park cleanup day

Humans can have a positive impact on their environment by taking responsibility and cleaning up pollution.

**8. In Venice, Italy, the streets are made of water! People use \_\_\_\_ to get to school and work.**

**Answer:** B) boats

When an environment is mostly water, humans adapt by using boats instead of cars for daily travel.

**9. People can wear different clothes to adapt to the weather outside.**

**Answer:** A) True

Choosing a raincoat for a storm or a hat for the sun is a basic human adaptation to the environment.

**10. Why do people build big walls called 'levees' near rivers or oceans?**

**Answer:** A) To keep the water from flooding homes

Levees are a way humans modify the land to protect their communities from natural flooding.