

LIVEWORKSHEETS - SDG 11

Grades 8-9 | English | Urban Green Spaces and Healthy Communities

MAIN TOPIC

Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)

SUBTOPIC

Urban Green Spaces and Healthy Communities

Target vocabulary: green space • urban heat island • biodiversity • shade • community garden • accessible • well-being

Task 1. Vocabulary Match

Match each target word/phrase with its meaning. In Liveworksheets, use Join or dropdown fields.

Word / phrase	Write the letter
green space	_____
urban heat island	_____
biodiversity	_____
shade	_____
community garden	_____
accessible	_____
well-being	_____

- A. a shared growing area where local people care for plants or food together
- B. the variety of living species found in one place
- C. a feeling of being healthy, comfortable, and mentally positive
- D. a city area with vegetation such as trees, grass, shrubs, or flowers
- E. easy for people with different abilities or needs to enter and use
- F. cooler protection from direct sunlight
- G. a situation in which built-up parts of a city are warmer than greener surroundings

Task 2. Read Text A and choose the best answer

TEXT A - A cooler place in a hot city

On very warm days, some city streets feel much hotter than nearby areas with trees and grass. Concrete, brick, and asphalt collect heat during the day and give it back slowly. When many hard surfaces are close together and there is little vegetation, an urban heat island can develop. A small green space can make a noticeable difference. Trees create shade over paths and benches, while grass and other plants help cool the

surroundings. These places can also support people's well-being by giving them somewhere quieter to walk, rest, read, or meet friends. For a green area to serve the whole neighbourhood, it should be accessible, with clear entrances, comfortable paths, and places to sit for people with different needs.

1. Why can built-up streets stay warmer?

- A) Plants produce too much heat.
- B) Hard surfaces absorb and release heat.
- C) People walk there more often.
- D) Benches block the wind.

2. What can trees add to a public space?

- A) Shade and cooler conditions
- B) More traffic
- C) Extra concrete
- D) Less biodiversity

3. How can a green area support well-being?

- A) By making streets noisier
- B) By creating more parking
- C) By offering a calmer place to spend time
- D) By removing seating

4. Which feature helps make a space accessible?

- A) A locked gate
- B) Clear entrances and usable paths
- C) Only stairs
- D) Narrow paths with obstacles

5. What is the main message of Text A?

- A) Cities should replace all roads with gardens.
- B) Only large parks can cool cities.
- C) Green areas can improve comfort, health, and inclusion.
- D) Trees are useful only in winter.

Task 3. Read Text B - True or False

TEXT B - From an empty corner to a shared garden

An unused corner beside a community centre was once covered with gravel and weeds. Local residents decided to turn it into a community garden. They added raised planting beds, herbs, vegetables, native flowers, and a few small trees. The flowers attracted bees and butterflies, while the trees offered shelter for birds. As more species appeared, the area's biodiversity increased. The garden also became a place where neighbours could work together, exchange gardening tips, and spend time outdoors. To make the space easier for everyone to use, volunteers created a wide, level path and added benches in both sunny and shaded places. The project showed that even a small piece of land can improve nature, social connection, and everyday comfort in a neighbourhood.

- 1. The garden was created on a space that had not been used well before. T / F
- 2. Only vegetables were planted in the new garden. T / F
- 3. Native flowers helped attract insects such as bees and butterflies. T / F
- 4. The project reduced biodiversity in the area. T / F

5. Wide level paths and benches helped more people use the space. T / F

Task 4. Complete the sentences with the target vocabulary

Use each item once: green space | urban heat island | biodiversity | shade | community garden | accessible | well-being

1. A row of trees can provide _____ for people waiting at a bus stop.
2. A neighbourhood with many different birds, insects, and plants has richer _____.
3. A small _____ between apartment buildings can give residents a place to relax.
4. A shared plot where families grow herbs and vegetables is a _____.
5. A park with step-free entrances and smooth paths is more _____.
6. Spending time outdoors can support physical and emotional _____.
7. Areas covered mainly by roads and buildings may experience the _____ effect.

Task 5. Sort the ideas

Drag each idea into the correct group in Liveworksheets.

HELPS PEOPLE	HELPS NATURE	MAKES A SPACE MORE ACCESSIBLE
Drop items here	Drop items here	Drop items here

Items to drag: native flowers for pollinators • wide level paths • supports well-being • trees and shrubs for birds • a quiet place to relax • step-free entrance • greater biodiversity • cooler seating on hot days • benches along the route

Task 6. Green-space decision challenge

Scenario: A schoolyard has mostly concrete, almost no shade, and one entrance with steps. Choose **THREE** improvements that best match the lesson topic.

- ☐ A. Plant trees and native shrubs.
- ☐ B. Add more asphalt.
- ☐ C. Create a step-free entrance and smoother path.
- ☐ D. Remove all seating.
- ☐ E. Add shaded benches and a small planted area.
- ☐ F. Replace plants with extra parking spaces.

Task 7. Short reflection

Open answer - teacher checked.

Write 2-3 sentences: What change could make a place near your school greener, healthier, or more accessible? Use at least **TWO** target words.
