

Air

All you want to know about air!



No. 2

In the

Early Readers Series

Air

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Why do we need air?

We need air to breathe.

Without it we would die.

All living things breathe air.

Without it they would die.

Air is everywhere, all around us.



You cannot see air but you
can feel it and see what it
does when it moves.

Look out of the window.

Is it windy? How do you
know?

Maybe you can see the
leaves on the trees moving.



Wind is the name we give to
moving air.

Wind is useful.

Wind turns windmills and
blows into the sails of boats
to move them along.



The wind from the South
brings sunshine, and warm
air.

The wind from the West
brings rain because the air
has travelled over the wet
sea.



The wind from the East is
dry and very cold in winter
and warm and dry in
summer.

North winds bring cold air
and snow and hail in
winter.



Air is a mixture of gases.

One of these gases is called oxygen.

Our lungs take the oxygen in the air and use it to keep us alive.

We breathe in oxygen through our mouths and noses.



All animals and plants
need oxygen to live too.

Plants and trees breathe
in oxygen through their
leaves.

Plants also breathe out
oxygen. They breathe out
oxygen for us to breathe
in.



Animals that live in the earth get their oxygen from the tiny air cracks in the ground.

Worms help to let air into the soil.

The frost breaks the soil up and lets air in.

Digging the earth helps to let air in as well.





Fishes get their oxygen from the water.

The fish takes in water through its mouth. Then the water comes

out of the fish again
through its gills. The
oxygen is taken out of the
water and into the fish's
blood.

Look for tiny bubbles which
show that the fish is
breathing.

Air can be made dirty.

It can be full of dust and germs.

Then it is not good for us to breathe it in. It might make us ill.

We need fresh air in our homes too. We need to open the windows and let fresh air in.



Jet planes use air to help them to fly.

A big force of air comes out of their tail .

Sometimes you can see this trail of air in the sky.



Some musical instruments use air. Have you tried to play a recorder?

As you blow into a recorder, you can use your fingers to cover the holes. This stops air from going out and changes the note being played.



Maybe you have a bicycle.

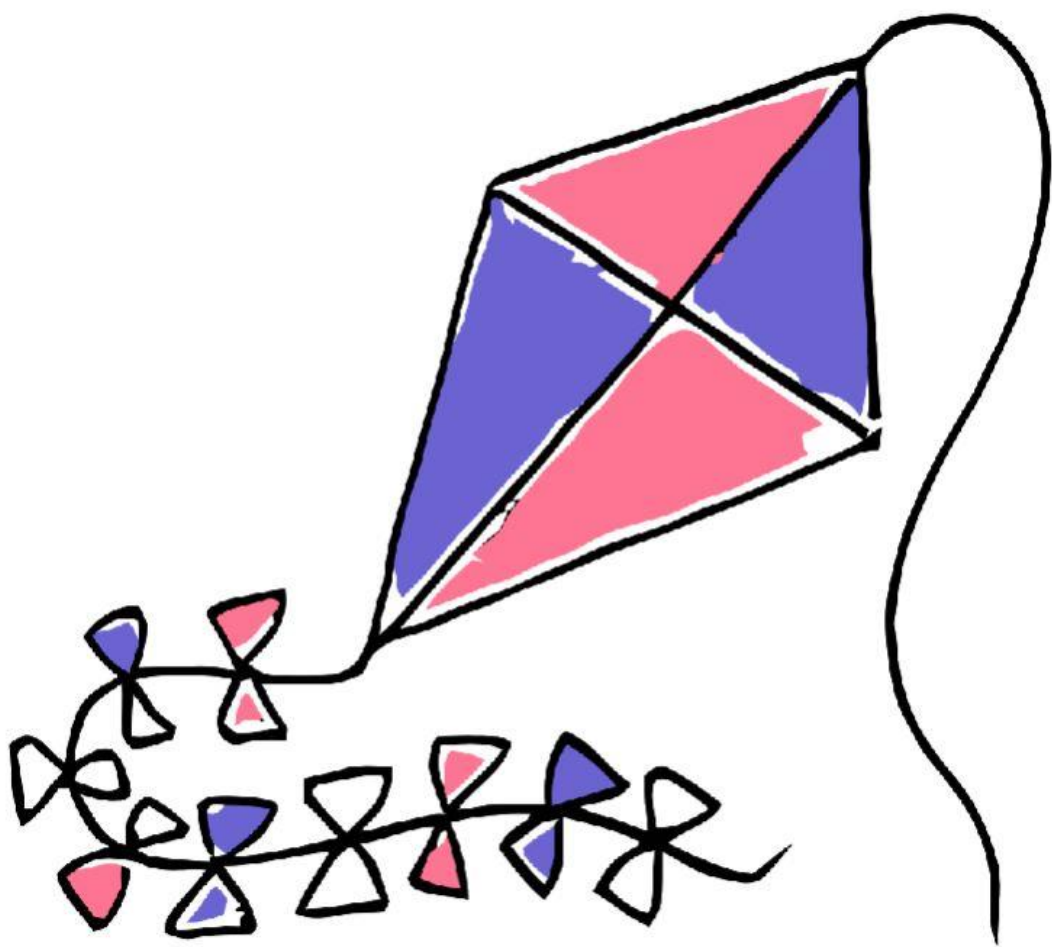
Bicycle tyres have to be pumped up with air.

What happens if you get a puncture?

In the past, tyres did not have air in them.



It is fun to play with air.
Have you ever flown a
kite? You need to get the
kite into an air current,
and then it will fly high.
Hold onto the string tightly
or it will blow away.



We would not be alive if we did not have air.

There are so many things we can do with air.