

KIND Name _____

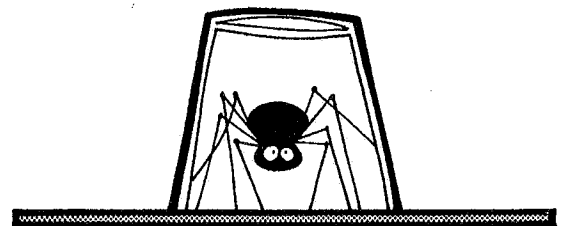
Toxic Talk

Yuck! We use lots of toxic products in our homes. They are poisonous in different ways. They can be bad for us, animals, and the Earth. They can be especially harmful if overused or if directions are not followed closely.

Is there a better way? You bet! Each example below describes two ways to do something. One way is toxic. The other is kind to the Earth and all life. For each example, find the KIND thing to do. Put a *K* for *KIND* in the space next to it.



1. _____ A. Put a chemical flea spray on your pet in the summer.
_____ B. Comb your pet with a fine-toothed flea comb.
2. _____ A. Use an air freshener that comes in a spray can.
_____ B. Open windows for fresh air.
3. _____ A. Pour boiling water down the drain each week to keep it clear.
_____ B. Use a chemical drain opener.
4. _____ A. Mix one part lemon juice and two parts vegetable oil to make a polish for furniture.
_____ B. Use a store-bought furniture polish.
5. _____ A. Use bug spray to kill beetles on the tomatoes in your garden.
_____ B. Plant marigold flowers next to the tomatoes to keep the beetles away.
6. _____ A. Use store-bought scouring powder to clean your kitchen.
_____ B. Use baking soda and water for kitchen cleaning.
7. _____ A. Put poison around for small, unwanted animals like rats and mice.
_____ B. Use a small box trap to catch animals. Then let them go free outside.
8. _____ A. Wash clothes with a mild laundry soap instead of laundry detergent.
_____ B. Use laundry detergent that does not have the word *biodegradable* on it.
9. _____ A. Use a store-bought glass and window cleaner.
_____ B. Clean windows with a mixture of vinegar and warm water.
10. _____ A. Catch a spider in your house using the glass-and-cardboard method. Then let it go free outside.
_____ B. Use bug spray to kill a spider in your house.



Making your own cleaning products is fun and helps the Earth and animals. Some cleaners sold in stores are tested on animals. When you make your own cleaner, you know it has not been tested on animals. On the back of this paper, write an advertisement for one of the homemade cleaners described above.