

Air Quality Flag Program

- Lesson Plans for Different Age Levels
- Free Flags from Montana Health Professionals for a Health Climate [Air Quality Flags - MONTANA HEALTH PROFESSIONALS FOR A HEALTHY CLIMATE](#)
- Chance to introduce AirNow.gov and explain that air quality is not stable

Helena, MT

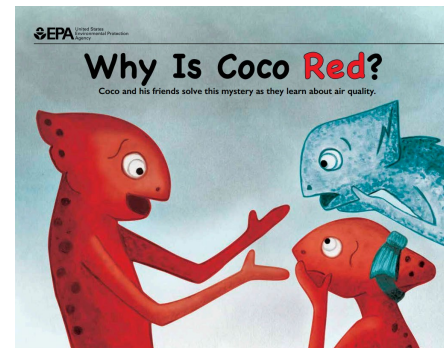


Today's Air Quality Forecast
03/07/25

OZONE ● Good
PM2.5 ● Good


| Current Air Quality | Tomorrow's Forecast |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Air Quality Index | Activity Guidance |


  





WHAT COLOR IS YOUR AIR TODAY?


Color the flag to match each sentence.

 Green means it's a great day to be outside.

 Yellow means it's a good day to be outside.

 Orange means it's OK to be outside, but take breaks and rest if you're playing for a long time.

 Red means take breaks and rest while playing outside.

 Purple means it's a good day to be inside.

Grade K

Step 1: Obtain Flags

- Free Flags from Montana Health Professionals for a Health Climate
- [Air Quality Flags - MONTANA HEALTH PROFESSIONALS FOR A HEALTHY CLIMATE](#)

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Step 2: Educate Your Community About the Air Quality Guidelines

| Air Quality Index | | What should I do? |
|-------------------|---|--|
| 0-50 |  | Good! It's a great day to be outside! |
| 51-100 |  | Moderate: Some risk for those who are sensitive to air pollution |
| 101-150 |  | Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups: Sensitive groups should limit time outside and avoid strenuous outdoor activity |
| 151-200 |  | Unhealthy for Everyone: Everyone should reduce exposure. Limit time outside and take steps for clean indoor air. |
| 201-500 |  | Hazardous: Stay inside and filter indoor air. Go elsewhere for cleaner air if needed. |

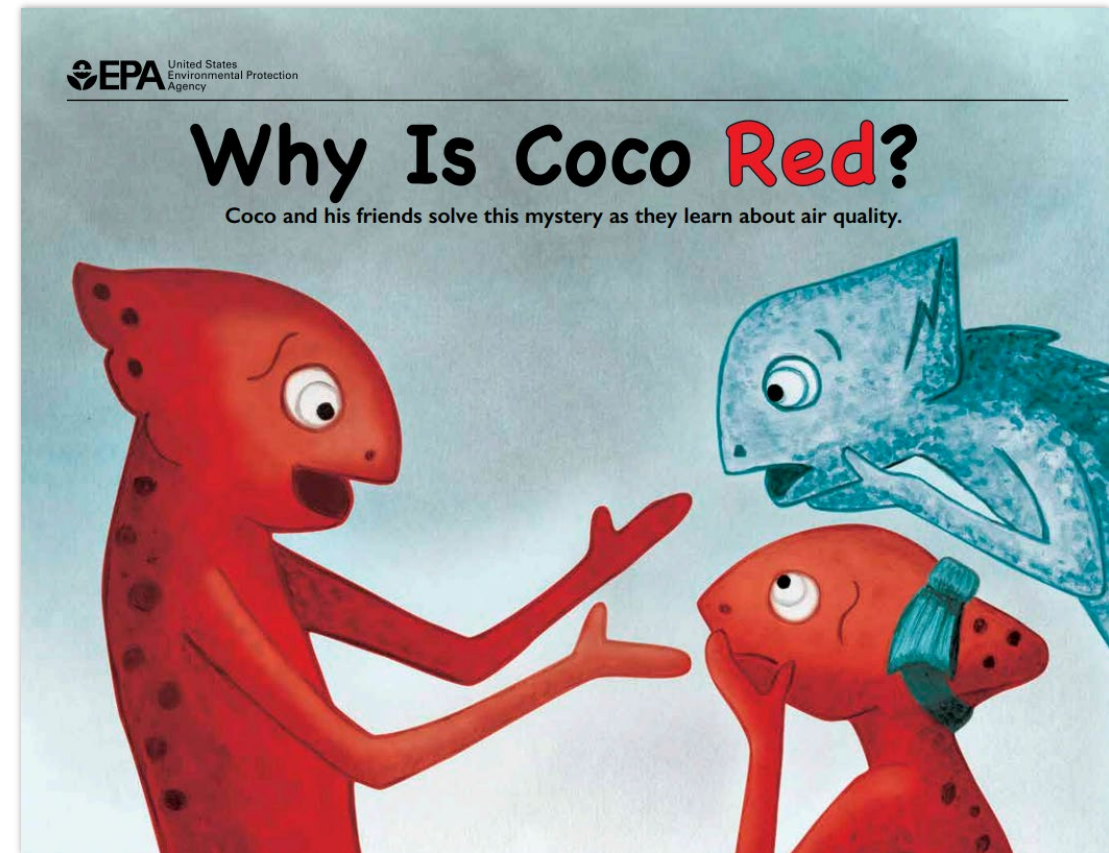
Connect the Flag Program to Story Hour

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Grade K



Step 3: Check Air Quality at AirNow.gov and select the flag for the day

- Sign up for a [daily email](#) about the air quality forecast or you can download the Flag Program [widget](#) to your homepage. The email and the widget tell you which flag to fly each day.
- Be sure to stress in your publications that air quality changes throughout the day so it is important to check air quality more than once during a smoke event.



Step 4: Share Information about the Health Impacts of Wildfire Smoke and How to Protect Yourself

- Social Media Messaging
- Informational Flyers
- Partnering with local wildfire and air quality organizations
- Email AirQuality@mt.gov for more ideas and resources

Montana

**WILDFIRE SMOKE
RESPONSE TOOLKIT**

**Social
Media
Graphics**

**Press
Releases**

**Email
Templates**

**Response
Checklists**

Resources for:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
BUSINESSES
SCHOOLS
INDIVIDUALS AND HOUSEHOLDS

**MONTANA
DPHHS** DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES