

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

# BATTLING EXTREME WEATHER



**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Heat Freak, Dr. Runoff, Carbon Creep, and Dust Demon are stirring up trouble. Whenever extreme weather hits, these bad guys are sure to also be around.

**But wait!** TurfMutt & the Outdoor Powers have come to the rescue! We know living landscapes can help lessen the effects of extreme weather. The right plants can help stop these environmental villains in their tracks. Let's find out more!



**Dust Be Gone:** During droughts, the ground dries out and becomes dusty. Dust Demon pops up and blows dust into the air. But plant roots help hold soil in place. They cut down on this type of erosion.



**Not-So-Fast Flood:** Storms can bring heavy rain. Dr. Runoff boosts flooding as the water runs off bare ground. But plants can act like a giant sponge. They suck up and slow down moving water that otherwise could turn into a flood.



**Clean Air, Cooler Planet:** Burning fossil fuels produces carbon dioxide gas. It traps heat in Earth's atmosphere, causing temperatures to rise. But grasses and other plants soak up carbon dioxide from the air. That helps cool the planet. Take that, Carbon Creep!



**Summer Cooldown:** The sun bakes streets, parking lots, and sidewalks. This causes cities to heat up. That's bad news when it's already dangerously hot outside. Plants have the opposite effect. They shade and soak up heat to keep areas cool and combat Heat Freak.

