

**Student Activity Worksheet: Preparing for Population Growth**

**Directions:** Read the *Science News* article "[The world population has now reached 8 billion](#)" and work with a classmate to answer the questions below. A version of the article, "Human population hits a milestone," appears in the December 17, 2022 & December 31, 2022 issue of *Science News*.

**Thinking across disciplines**

1. Brainstorm a list of ways that a growing human population can affect society and the planet. Think about both positive and negative effects. Which groups of people and industries (for example, agriculture or medicine) do you think will be most affected by population growth and why?

2. Choose one industry to focus on and write a few sentences to summarize how population growth will affect the industry. Could the choices made within the industry also impact population growth? Explain.

**Collaborating across industries**

1. Working with a classmate who focused on a different industry in the previous question, come up with a change that might be implemented on a national or international level that might help the industries support the needs of the growing population. Explain how your recommendations would impact each industry and people more broadly.

