

Renewable or Nonrenewable Resources

A Compare and
Contrast Book



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A Compare and Contrast Book

Everything around us is made from natural resources. Some things are easily replaced, while others are not. Think about the food you have eaten or the energy it took to zoom to school on the bus. What natural resources have you used today, and are they easy to replace? Step through the latest book in the Compare and Contrast series to learn about the world's resources, how long they take to reproduce, and how technology and ingenuity are helping to relieve the strain on some of our most precious reserves.

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The *For Creative Minds* includes

- Renewable or Not?
- Reduce, Reuse or Recycle?
- Electricity

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Thanks to Chip Lindsey, Senior Director of Education at the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, for verifying the accuracy of the information in this book.

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Natural Resources come from the Earth. Plants, animals, air, sunlight, water, soil, oil, natural gas, coal, rocks, and minerals are natural resources. These resources are used to make everything we use.

Renewable resources are easily made and replaced within a period of time usually shorter than a person's lifetime.



Nonrenewable resources cannot be easily replaced as it takes much longer than a human lifetime to make new.



Living things provide us with renewable resources. Plants and animals make more of themselves with or without human help.

Farmers plant fields of fruit, vegetables, and grains that we eat. They save seeds to plant more.

Some people even grow some of their own food in a garden.



Animals give birth to young and then the young grow into adults to make more baby animals. Whether raised on farms or found in the wild, animals provide us with renewable resources.



It takes the Earth up to hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of years to make some of the nonrenewable resources we use. When those resources are gone, or we can't find anymore, we must do without or use substitutes that we can make (synthetics) from other resources.

We use three main nonrenewable fossil fuels for energy: coal, oil, and natural gas. We drill and quarry to find and use these resources.



For Creative Minds

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Visit www.ArbordalePublishing.com to explore additional resources.

Renewable or Not?

Can you identify which of these things come from renewable or nonrenewable resources? Discuss with a friend or an adult what resources were used and how we get them.



corn chips



plastic



peanut butter



gasoline



grape jelly



turkey



stone steps



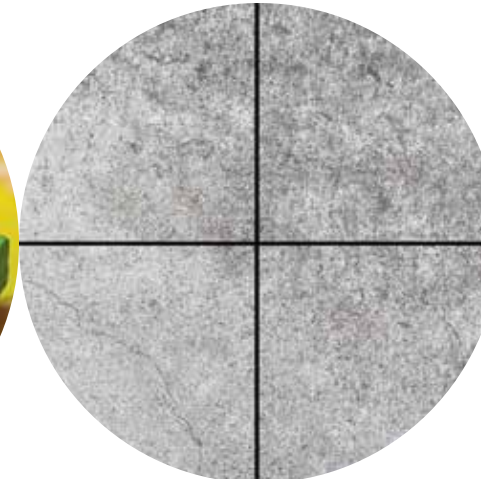
vegetables



diamond ring



wood blocks



stone tiles



chicken nuggets



aluminum cans



rubber tire



wood lumber

Answers: Renewable: corn chips, peanut butter, grape jelly, turkey
Nonrenewable: plastic (recyclable), gasoline

Answers: Renewable: vegetables, wood blocks, chicken nuggets, rubber tire, wood lumber
Nonrenewable: stone steps, diamond ring, stone tiles, aluminum cans (recyclable)

Resource Conservation: Reduce, Reuse, or Recycle

It's important to conserve resources, especially nonrenewable resources.

Sometimes the easiest way to conserve a resource is by reducing the need for it.

Sometimes, it's very easy to reuse something for either the same purpose or something new and different.

Cardboard, aluminum, plastic, and glass are all things that are easily recycled.

Discuss your answers to the following questions with a friend or family member.



Describe what it means to reduce the need for something.	Describe what it means to reuse something.	Describe what it means to recycle something.	What are some ways you can reduce water usage on daily?	Describe how you can recycle a favorite toy when you outgrow it.
In what can you carry a lunch each day instead of a plastic or paper bag?	What are some ways you can reuse or recycle clothes you have outgrown?	What are some ways you can reduce use of plastic water bottles?	What are some ways you can conserve (reduce) electricity in your house?	What are some ways you can reduce the need for wrapping paper?
How can you reduce using plastic bags from the grocery store?	Describe things you can make with paper towel or toilet paper holders.	What are some things that can be recycled?	Does your town or city provide recycling?	How would you recycle things?

Electricity

As mentioned in the book, which of the following resources might be used to make electricity?



Answers: All

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