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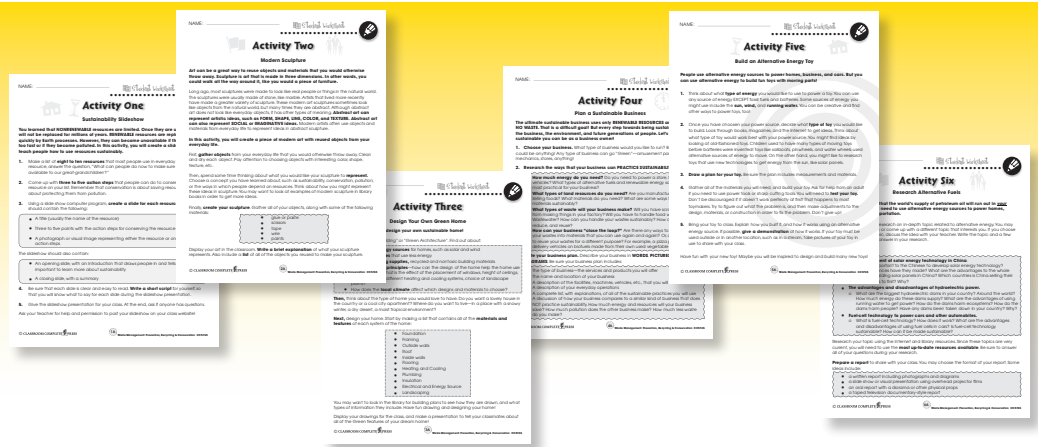
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# Conservation

1. Imagine that you put one dollar in a savings account every day. What would happen over time if you began spending two dollars from the savings account each day? Explain your reasoning.

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2. Use a dictionary to look up the word **CONSERVATION** and **SUSTAINABILITY**. Write the definitions on the lines below.

a) The definition of **conservation** is:

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b) The definition of **sustainability** is:

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3. Complete each sentence with a word from the list. Use a dictionary to help you.

recycling    reservoir    renewable    nonrenewable    surroundings

- The word \_\_\_\_\_ means everything around you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ resources are constantly replaced by nature.
- A body of water used to supply people with drinking water is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Resources that are not replaced by nature in time for people to use them are called \_\_\_\_\_.
- Melting down metal cans to make other metal products is an example of \_\_\_\_\_.



# Conservation

What are natural resources?

**T**ake a look at your surroundings. What things do you see around you? Are you inside a building? Maybe you see lights, painted walls, a concrete floor. Perhaps you are sitting at a desk or table. You might have pens, paper, and markers at your desk. Do your surroundings seem different from the natural world? Actually, everything around you was made from materials found in nature. These **natural resources** include plants, metals, rock, soil, and petroleum oil. Fresh water, clean air, and sunlight are other important natural resources that we need in order to survive.

**Describe the meaning of the term natural resources. What natural resources do you depend on in your everyday life?**

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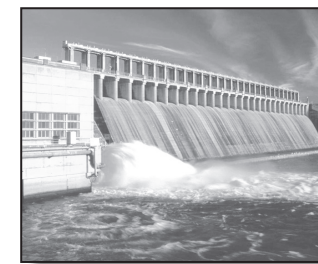
What are some types of natural resources?

**S**ome natural resources are constantly being put back, or replaced, by Earth processes. For example, fresh water collects in streams after each rainfall. If people take water from a stream, the water will be replaced by rainfall.

Natural resources that are constantly replaced are called **renewable**. Trees are renewable because new trees can grow as old ones are cut. Renewable resources also include resources that are not used up. For example, windmills change wind energy to electric energy. Wind is a renewable resource because it is not used up by the windmills. Sunlight is another example of a renewable resource.

Other natural resources are not replaced in time for people to use them. For example, **petroleum oil** was formed from ancient plants by a process that takes millions of years.

Once we use up the supply of petroleum oil on Earth, petroleum oil will no longer be available to us. Natural resources that can be used up are called **nonrenewable**. **Metal ores** are a nonrenewable resource. Like oil, they take millions of years to form.



# Conservation

1. On each line, write the letter **R** for RENEWABLE or **N** for NONRENEWABLE to label the resource being described.

- \_\_\_\_\_ a) Sunlight used to recharge batteries.
- \_\_\_\_\_ b) Water from a river flowing through a dam to make electricity.
- \_\_\_\_\_ c) Petroleum oil used to make plastics.
- \_\_\_\_\_ d) Coal that is burned to make electricity.
- \_\_\_\_\_ e) Aluminum used to make soda cans.
- \_\_\_\_\_ f) Trees cut and milled into boards for building homes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ g) Wind used to turn windmills that make electricity.
- \_\_\_\_\_ h) Copper used to make pipes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ i) Uranium ore used in nuclear power plants to make electricity.

2. Circle the word **True** if the statement is true. Circle the word **False** if it is false.

- Recycling aluminum is one way to use aluminum sustainably.  
True      False
- Conserving a nonrenewable resource like petroleum oil can make that resource renewable.  
True      False
- Trees are a nonrenewable resource.  
True      False
- Plastic water bottles are made from a renewable resource.  
True      False
- Renewable resources are replaced by natural Earth processes faster than people can use them up.  
True      False
- Petroleum oil is a renewable resource because it will be replaced by natural Earth processes in a few million years.  
True      False



# Conservation

3. How would you explain the meaning of **sustainability** to a younger brother or sister? What examples could you use to help a child understand the meaning of sustainability?

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4. Explain how **recycling** a nonrenewable resource can make that resource sustainable, even if the amount of that resource on Earth is limited.

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### Extension & Application

5. Create a checklist of ways for teachers and students to practice conservation in your classroom. Begin by **brainstorming** a list of all of the resources that the people in your classroom depend upon to live and to learn. Make a **T-chart** like the one below. Write the resources from your list in the left column. In the right column, brainstorm one or two ways to conserve each resource.

Resources	Ways to conserve

Use your T-chart to come up with a list of **action steps** that people can use to practice conservation in your classroom. Action steps are phrases that use action verbs. They give people information about the actions they can do to solve problems. For example, "Place bottles in the recycle bin" is an action step with the verb "place."

**Be sure your list includes:**

- At least eight to ten action steps
- At least one action step that will help conserve each resource in your list
- Action steps that can be taken by everyone in your classroom

Write your steps in large letters on a poster board and display them in your classroom.





# Write a Screenplay!

Have you ever watched a movie or television show about people who live in the future? Stories about people who live in the future, or on other planets, are called SCIENCE FICTION. In this activity, you will **write a science fiction screenplay**. A screenplay is a script for a movie or television show. It tells the actors what to say, and includes descriptions of the scenery, or background.

1. Work with a group of **four to five** classmates. Begin by talking about how you think people in the future will use resources. The world's supply of fossil fuels has run out. Answer the following questions:

- How do people get energy for their homes and buildings? Do they use electricity? Where does the electricity come from?
- Do people still use metals? Plastics? Glass? If so, how do they keep these resources sustainable? If not, what other materials do they use?
- What are people's houses like?
- Do people still use automobiles? If so, what type of fuel do they run on? If not, how do people get around?
- What type of clothes do people wear? What materials are they made from?
- Has society solved problems of air and water pollution? If so, how? If not, what is it like to live with the pollution problems?

2. With your group, **brainstorm a general storyline** about people who live in the future. Choose characters for each member of the group. Find a way to work the answers to the above questions into your storyline.

3. **Write your screenplay**. Look in your library for other screenplays. Look through a few samples of other screenplays to get an idea of how they are written.

4. **Practice your play**. You will need a few rehearsals to memorize your lines. Work together to create scenery for your movie. Be creative and have fun!

5. Ask a parent or teacher to help you record your screenplay with a video camera. Edit the movie and show it to your classmates.



# Crossword Puzzle!



### Across

1. recycling makes a resource \_\_\_\_\_
4. an important resource for drinking and washing \_\_\_\_\_
6. to turn a material from an old product into a new product \_\_\_\_\_
7. what you do when you refill a water bottle \_\_\_\_\_
9. the practice of saving and protecting natural resources \_\_\_\_\_
10. broken down organic matter \_\_\_\_\_
12. the water that flows down the drain \_\_\_\_\_
14. the gases in the atmosphere \_\_\_\_\_
15. how solids are taken out of wastewater \_\_\_\_\_

### Down

1. a renewable resource that can power a home \_\_\_\_\_
2. what happens to wastewater \_\_\_\_\_
3. everything that surrounds you \_\_\_\_\_
5. to use less \_\_\_\_\_
8. a resource that is quickly replaced by nature \_\_\_\_\_
11. once-living \_\_\_\_\_
13. harmful \_\_\_\_\_



# Comprehension Quiz

30

### Part A

Circle the word True if the statement is true. Circle the word False if it is false.

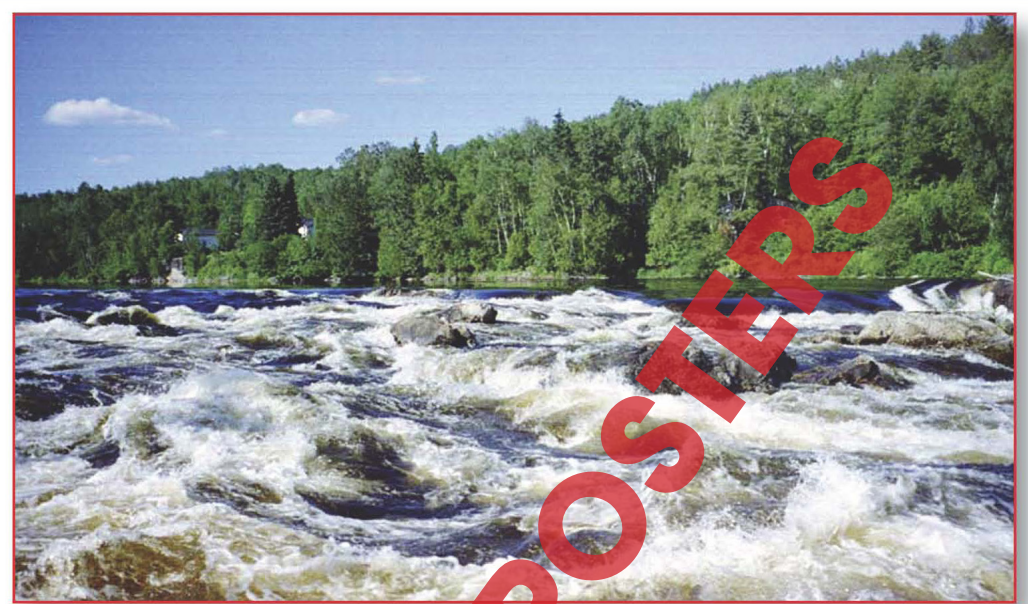
- 1) Nonrenewable resources are replaced by natural Earth processes faster than people can use them up.  
True False
- 2) Metals, wood, and plastic are all made with resources from the land.  
True False
- 3) At a recycling facility, plastic bottles are washed and filled with new products.  
True False
- 4) An apple core is an example of organic matter.  
True False
- 5) Sewage treatment makes water safe to drink.  
True False
- 6) Recycled water comes from unopened water bottles that have been sent to a recycling facility.  
True False
- 7) Automobiles that run on gasoline are a major cause of air pollution.  
True False
- 8) Green businesses are businesses that try to use as many natural resources as possible.  
True False

### Part B

Put a check mark (✓) next to the answer that is most correct.

- 1) Which item could you place on a compost pile?
  - A plastic bottle
  - B glass jar
  - C banana peel
  - D newspaper
- 2) Which of these is NOT a use for recycled water?
  - A drinking
  - B watering plants
  - C restoring wetlands
  - D cooling machines in factories
- 3) Which substance can cause smog?
  - A bauxite
  - B benzene
  - C carbon
  - D ozone
- 4) Which source of energy is nonrenewable?
  - A solar
  - B wind
  - C petroleum oil
  - D running water

# Fresh Water Resources



A stream



A reservoir



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

After You Read 



## Conservation



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3.

Answers will vary

Answers will vary

12

4.

Answers will vary

Answers will vary

5.

Answers will vary

13

Answers will vary

14

Answers will vary

11

15

