

Natural Resources

Today you are going to hear a read-aloud about the natural resources that come from Earth. Natural resources are things found in nature, such as land, water, and air, that are valuable and very important to people. People use natural resources every day. For example, people use water to drink, to wash things, and to make other things we need, such as medicine.

Natural Resources

You will learn about natural resources and the different ways that people use them. Listen carefully to the read aloud to find out more about today's topic: natural resources.

Natural Resources

Earth here again. I always like to start by showing you a picture of me, just to remind you how beautiful, amazing, and magnificent I am! Everything people need in order to live happy, healthy lives is available right here on Earth.



Natural Resources

What continents can you see in this picture? The continents are the seven largest pieces of land on Earth. You can see Europe, Africa, and a little bit of Asia. You can always spot Europe because of the shape of Italy. That's the one that looks like a boot.



Natural Resources

See the big brown area at the bottom of the picture? That's North Africa. It is almost completely covered by the Sahara Desert, which is the biggest desert and one of the driest, hottest places on Earth.



Natural Resources



Natural Resources

You won't find too many people living in the Sahara Desert, but that does not mean that nobody lives there. It is possible to live in the desert. But there are very few natural resources, like water, in the desert, which makes it very difficult for people to live there.



Natural Resources

Let's talk a bit more about natural resources for a minute. Natural resources are things you can find in nature--outside, underground, underwater, or even in the sky. Natural resources are not made by people. Natural resources are part of me, Good Old Earth.



Natural Resources

There are two natural resources in this picture. Can you guess what they are? Hint: One is wet, the other is wood. Water and trees are two examples of natural resources that are very important and valuable to people.



Natural Resources

As I just said, one natural resource is water. Of course, one way we use water is to drink it just as it is. Other things we drink, such as juice, soda, and tea also contain water. In what other ways is water a resource?



Natural Resources

We use water for baths, washing dishes, brushing our teeth, cooking and watering the garden where we grow food. The list goes on.



Natural Resources



Natural Resources

Trees are natural resources, too. This illustration shows just a few things that come from, or are made out of trees. Let's see if we can name all of these items in the picture.



Natural Resources

Since trees are mostly wood, we use that resource to make all sorts of things--wood for houses, furniture, pencils, baseball bats, and a million other uses.



Natural Resources

Paper is also made from trees. Everything made out of paper comes from trees, including your notebook, napkins, cereal boxes and other cardboard boxes, and the posters on the wall in your classroom.



Natural Resources

This is a pretty picture of trees, but I actually wanted to point out something else: the blue sky above the trees. Trees are also important because of their connection to another natural resource in the sky: air. You really can't see air, but it is all around you and everything else on Earth.



Natural Resources

Did you know that trees actually help keep the air clean and fresh for you to breathe? Amazing, right? All plants help clean the air, but trees are the biggest and best air-cleaners. They take in dirty air and put out nice, fresh oxygen, which your body needs to breathe in to stay alive.



Natural Resources

Remember, we learned about this when we learned about plants?

The more trees there are, the cleaner the air will be. If the air is too dirty, though, even the trees will get sick.



Natural Resources

There are other important natural resources, too. I am going to zip through these pretty quickly, just to give you an idea of the kinds of natural resources you can find scattered around, on, or inside the earth. But don't worry--I am going to tell you more about them over the next few days.



Natural Resources

This picture was taken on a farm. What do you see? You can call it dirt, if you want, but farmers call it soil. Soil is a natural resource, and it's where farmers plant their crops. Soil is made up partly of decayed or rotten parts of dead plants and creatures.



Natural Resources

Worms help to turn the dead things into new soil. It can take about one thousand years to make one inch of good soil. Without soil, you wouldn't have plants or vegetables!



Natural Resources

Here is a school of fish. A school is another name for a group of fish. What other kind of school do you know about? Fish are important natural resources, too. Why? Because some people and animals eat them. In fact, some animals eat nothing but fish!



Natural Resources

Do you know what these two natural resources are? The one on the left is called coal. The one on the right is oil. Coal and oil can be used to make energy, electricity, or fuel to make cars run.



Natural Resources

So, now you know what natural resources are! And I'll tell you this: you people sure are clever because you've figured out how to turn all these natural resources--water, trees, air, and the soil on land--into many things that you need.



Natural Resources

Over the next several days, I'll teach you how to conserve these natural resources as a way to help take care of the earth. To conserve means to protect or save. I'll also teach you that using some natural resources too much can actually hurt the earth, and none of us want that, right?



Natural Resources

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What is the main topic of the read aloud?

Natural Resources

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What is a natural resource?

Natural Resources

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Name some examples of natural resources
that you heard about.

Natural Resources

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

How do people use some of these natural resources?

Natural Resources

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

How do trees and plants help keep the air clean?

Natural Resources

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Name two natural resources that can be used to make energy and fuel.

Think Pair. Share.



I'm going to ask you a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

Think Pair. Share.

Evaluative:



What do you think would happen if there was no more clean water on Earth.

Word Work

Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

Natural Resources

In the read aloud you heard, “Over the next several days, you’ll learn how to **conserve** these natural resources as a way to take care of the earth.”

Say the word **conserve** with me.
Whisper conserve to the ceiling.
Whisper conserve to your neighbor.
Let’s clap it out.

Natural Resources

To **Conserve** is to save or protect something, usually something in nature or a natural resource.

Someone might conserve water by turning off the faucet when they brush their teeth, or people might conserve nature by protecting natural land and not building on it.

Natural Resources

Tell about something that you think is important to conserve. Use the word conserve when you tell about it.

“It is important to conserve...”

Natural Resources

*What's the word we have been talking
about?*

Let's clap it out.

Natural Resources

The opposite of conserve is waste. If any of the things I say is an example of conserve, clap your hands. If any of the things I say are examples of waste, cover your face with your hands.

Natural Resources

*Letting the water run in the sink for
too long*

Natural Resources

Using three paper towels to clean something up when you only need one

Natural Resources

Taking a short shower.

Natural Resources

Leaving the television on when you are not watching it.

Natural Resources

*Turning off the lights after everyone
has left a room.*

