

Tracing Trash Back to Its Roots



science



social studies

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To teach students to identify the various natural resources used to produce common items that become waste.



Students will play "Trash Bingo" as a method to identify what natural resources are used to make common products.



1 hour



• Copies of bingo card for each student (make copies and then cut sheets so half the students get one version of the bingo card and half get a different version).



Communication Problem solving

Key Vocabulary Words

Natural resources

Renewable resources

Nonrenewable resources



Step 1: Review and explain the vocabulary words above. Explain that most products are made from natural resources. (Refer to the Teacher Fact Sheets titled *Natural Resources* on page 5 and *Products* on page 25 for background information.)

Step 2: List five categories of natural resources on the blackboard: animals, fossil fuels, metals, plants/trees, and sand. Discuss with students some examples of products that are made from these natural resources. Brainstorm a list of things that are made from natural resources (mostly everything!) and make another list on the blackboard. Make sure there are at least five products for each natural resource category. Encourage students to think of food and beverage items and con-

Common Products

Aluminum can Grocery bag
Aluminum lawn chair Hamburger

Apple core Leather jacket

Bicycle tire Linen pants

Bologna sandwich Milk container

Book Mirror

Bread Nylon pantyhose

Cereal box Sandwich bag
Cotton shirt Soda bottle

Egg shells Window

Glass bottle of juice Wool hat



Ask students to write about what natural resources mean to them. Ask them to pick a natural resource and describe why it is special or important to them.

Or

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Have students write about their favorite toy or game. Have them write a history of where it came from, starting from when it was a natural resource.

tainers, household product containers, and household items (furniture, books, appliances). See suggestions in box if the list is deficient.

Step 3: Explain the rules for bingo, and hand out bingo cards.

Step 4: Select words from the students' product list (or the list of suggestions) and call out words one at a time. Instruct students to find the category or categories that each item belongs in on their bingo sheet and write the name of the product. There may be more than one natural resource for each product (for example, a pair of tennis shoes might fill three categories: plant, fossil fuel, and metal).

Step 5: The first student to fill the card wins. Use the T-R-A-S-H letters as free spaces. Be sure to check the student's bingo sheet to see if all answers are correct!

Step 6: After the bingo game, have each student circle the items that are made from renewable resources.



- What are natural resouces?
- 2. What's the difference between renewable and nonrenewable natural resources?



- Additional questions include asking students what happens if we keep using more and more natural resources? How can we stop using so many natural resources? How can we use more renewable resources and less nonrenewable resources?
- 2. Play show and tell. Have students bring in one of their favorite "things" and tell the class where it came from, including the resources used in producing it and how it came to be in their house. Have them describe what they will do with it when it is broken, old, used up, or no longer needed.
- 3. Conduct a scavenger hunt. Make a list of common items found inside or outside of the classroom that are derived from animals, plants, metals/minerals, fossil fuels, or sand. Have students find 15 of 30 items and identify which category they belong in. Give the students 15 minutes to look for the items, then call them together and discuss their answers.

Unit 1, Chapter 2, Products The Quest for Less

Student Handout

Name:

Trash Bing	Animals	Fossil Fuels	Metals	B	Sand
Diri	Plants/Trees	Metals	Metals	Sand	Fossil Fuels
THE TOTAL STREET	Fossil Fuels	R	A	Plants/Trees	Sand
	望	Animals	Sand	Plants/Trees	Ħ
	Plants/Trees	Fossil Fuels	Fossil Fuels	Metals	Metals

	证	Animals	Metals	Fossil Fuels	Fossil Fuels
١	Sand	Plants/Trees	A	Metals	Sand
	Animals	Metals	Metals	Fossil Fuels	Plants/Trees
	Plants/Trees	Sand	Sand	S	Plants/Trees
	Fossil Fuels	B	Plants/Trees	Fossil Fuels	
	Name:				ESS