

Lesson Plan

Exploring Energy Sources

Book: *We Need Energy Workers*

Series: Essential Jobs

Level: Pioneer

Objective

To help students identify which sources of energy are renewable and which are fossil fuels, and to explore the impact these sources have on the environment.

Supplies

- Several copies of the *We Need Energy Workers* book
- Whiteboard
- Exploring Energy Sources worksheet (attached)

Before the Activity

Divide students into groups of three or four. Print a copy of the Exploring Energy Sources worksheet for each group.

Activity

We Need Energy Workers explains different ways that people get and use energy. This energy comes from several sources. Some of these sources are fossil fuels. These fuels come from plants and animals that died long ago. Earth has a limited amount of them. Other sources are renewable. That means they won't be used up or run out.

Give each group a worksheet and a copy of the book. Have students read the book in their groups. As they read, students should look for three types of fossil fuels and three types of renewable resources. Students will use this information to fill out the worksheet.

After each group completes the worksheet, come back together as a class. Invite volunteers to share their group's answers. Then discuss the following questions:

- Based on what you learned, what problems could using fossil fuels create? (Possible Answers: People could hurt the environment when they drill or dig for these fuels. In addition, these fuels could run out.)
- How could using renewable resources solve these problems? (Possible Answers: These energy sources are less harmful to the environment. Plus, these sources will not run out.)

Evaluation

Collect each group's worksheet at the end of class. Use the attached answer key to give each group 1 point for each correct answer, for up to 8 points.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 1 (RI 1.1, 1.10), and speaking and listening standards, grade 1 (SL 1.1, 1.2).

Exploring Energy Sources

1. Write three types of fossil fuels in the boxes below.

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2. How do people get these fuels?

3. Write three sources of renewable energy in the boxes below.

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4. How do people get this kind of energy?

Exploring Energy Sources **ANSWER KEY**

1. Write three types of fossil fuels in the boxes below.

coal	oil	natural gas
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2. How do people get these fuels?

Workers drill or dig to get these fuels. (Factories clean and refine them.)

3. Write three sources of renewable energy in the boxes below.

wind	sunlight	(moving) water
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4. How do people get this kind of energy?

People use machines to make this kind of energy.
