

Earth Resource Detectives

Sort the resources people use into renewable and nonrenewable groups.

SC.4.E.6.3 "Recognize that humans need resources found on Earth and that these are either renewable or nonrenewable."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each bold resource name. Write R above each bold name that is renewable and N above each bold name that is nonrenewable.

Resources for Daily Life

- ① People use Earth resources every day. An Earth resource is something from Earth that people use. At a bakery, **wheat plants** provide flour for bread. Water from a river helps grow the wheat. **Trees** provide wood for the oven and paper for bags. These resources meet needs for food, water, and useful materials at home.
- ② Some resources are renewable. They can be replaced by natural processes in a fairly short time when people use them carefully. **Wheat plants** can grow again from seeds. **Trees** can grow again, although a new tree takes many years. Flowing **river water** is renewed by the water cycle. Renewable does not mean people should waste these resources.
- ③ Other resources are nonrenewable. They take extremely long times to form, so people cannot replace them quickly. **Coal** is a fuel formed from ancient plant matter over millions of years. **Iron** is a metal taken from rocks. People use coal to make electricity and iron to make tools. When these resources are used up, the supply is limited.

2

ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1

Why are wheat plants renewable resources?

2

Is iron renewable or nonrenewable? Use information from the passage to explain.

3

How is river water different from coal in the time needed to replace it?

4

Name one renewable resource and one nonrenewable resource from the passage. Tell one way people use each resource.

3

YOUR TURN

Your own words

Make a resource plan using three different bold resources from the passage. In each row, name the resource, classify it, and write the use stated in the passage.

RESOURCE FROM PASSAGE	TYPE	USE FROM PASSAGE

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each bold resource name. Write R above each bold name that is renewable and N above each bold name that is nonrenewable. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why are wheat plants renewable resources?	Wheat plants can grow again from seeds.
2	Is iron renewable or nonrenewable? Use information from the passage to explain.	Iron is nonrenewable because it takes an extremely long time to form and cannot be replaced quickly.
3	How is river water different from coal in the time needed to replace it?	River water is renewed by the water cycle, while coal takes millions of years to form.
4	Name one renewable resource and one nonrenewable resource from the passage. Tell one way people use each resource.	Answers vary. Example: Wheat plants are renewable and provide flour for bread. Coal is nonrenewable and is used to make electricity.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

RESOURCE FROM PASSAGE	TYPE	USE FROM PASSAGE
Wheat plants	Renewable	Flour for bread
Trees	Renewable	Wood for the oven
Iron	Nonrenewable	Tools

Accept only the five bold resources named in the passage. Renewable resources are wheat plants, trees, and river water. Nonrenewable resources are coal and iron, with uses matching the passage.