

Shield Resource Choices

Trace how mining and logging bring benefits and create changes.

SS6G6.b "Explain the causes and effects of the extraction of natural resources on the Canadian Shield (e.g., mining and logging)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each reason mining or logging happens, underline each effect on people or the environment, and draw an arrow from one cause to its effect.

Resources from the Shield

- ① The Canadian Shield is a vast region of ancient rock that covers much of Canada. Its rocks contain valuable minerals, including nickel, gold, copper, and iron. Companies build mines there because people and factories need these materials for products such as batteries, wires, and steel. A mine can bring jobs, roads, and income to a nearby community. To reach an ore body, workers may remove soil and rock, build access roads, and use large amounts of water and energy.
- ② Logging also occurs in parts of the Shield where forests grow over thin soils. Companies cut trees to supply lumber, paper, and other wood products. Logging can employ workers and support mills and truck drivers. However, cutting many trees can remove animal shelter and change how water moves across the land. Heavy machines may compact soil, while roads can break a forest into smaller sections. If companies do not carefully plan and restore logged areas, erosion can carry soil into streams.
- ③ Mining can also affect water. Rain or melting snow may flow through exposed rock or mine waste and carry metals into nearby water. This pollution can harm fish and make water unsafe for people or wildlife. Mining and logging effects can last after work ends, so governments and companies may require permits, monitoring, cleanup, and replanting. These actions reduce harm, but they do not erase every change. Communities must weigh resource jobs and products against possible damage to land, forests, and water.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Why do companies build mines in the Canadian Shield? Name one benefit a mine can bring to a nearby community.

2 What is one reason companies log parts of the Canadian Shield, and what is one effect of cutting many trees?

3 Use the passage to explain how mine waste can affect fish.

4 Name two actions that governments or companies may require to reduce harm after mining or logging.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine a Canadian Shield town is considering a new logging area. Write 3 or 4 sentences that explain why logging is proposed, one community benefit, one environmental effect, and one action that could reduce harm.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each reason mining or logging happens, underline each effect on people or the environment, and draw an arrow from one cause to its effect. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why do companies build mines in the Canadian Shield? Name one benefit a mine can bring to a nearby community.	Companies mine because the Shield contains valuable minerals needed for products. A mine can bring jobs, roads, or income to a nearby community.
2	What is one reason companies log parts of the Canadian Shield, and what is one effect of cutting many trees?	Companies log to supply lumber, paper, and other wood products. Cutting many trees can remove animal shelter or change how water moves across the land.
3	Use the passage to explain how mine waste can affect fish.	Rain or melting snow can flow through exposed rock or mine waste and carry metals into nearby water. The pollution can harm fish.
4	Name two actions that governments or companies may require to reduce harm after mining or logging.	Any two: permits, monitoring, cleanup, or replanting.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The town proposes logging because companies need wood for lumber and paper. The work could provide jobs for loggers and truck drivers. Cutting many trees could remove animal shelter and allow erosion to carry soil into streams. The company could replant the area and monitor the land after logging. Accept equivalent cause-and-effect statements that are supported by the passage. For the open response, accept reasonable accurate benefits, environmental effects, and harm-reduction actions connected to logging.