Resource Sort

How do regions use resources?

4.C.4.2 "Describe how economic activities impact the nation's economy. Identify the major economic activities in which people of each region work to satisfy their needs and wants (e.g., commercial agriculture, manufacturing, energy production…"

NAME _____ DATE _____

RENEWABLE

Nature can replace this resource in a useful amount of time, especially when people care for it.

Soil in a garden helps grow carrots.

NONRENEWABLE

This resource has a limited supply. Nature cannot replace it within a human lifetime.

A gold nugget dug from the ground can be made into jewelry.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle RENEWS or LIMITED for each numbered item, then choose two items and explain in Part 2 how you knew each answer.

1.	1. Great Plains wind used to make electricity	RENEWS LIMITED
2.	2. Texas natural gas used to heat homes	RENEWS LIMITED
3.	3. Rocky Mountain coal burned to make electricity	RENEWS LIMITED
4.	4. Pacific Northwest river water used to make electricity	RENEWS LIMITED
5.	5. Southeast trees cut for lumber and replanted	RENEWS LIMITED
6.	6. Mid-Continent oil used to make truck fuel	RENEWS LIMITED
7.	7. Southwest sunlight used to make electricity	RENEWS LIMITED
8.	8. Minnesota iron ore used to make steel	RENEWS LIMITED

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new resource example for each category, and tell how people use each one to make a good or provide a service.

RENEWS _____

LIMITED _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one resource from Part 1 and explain how its location supports a job in that region. Write two sentences.

ANSWER KEY

Resource Sort

GRADE 4 · 4.C.4.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	1. Great Plains wind used to make electricity	**RENEWS**	Wind is naturally renewed.
2	2. Texas natural gas used to heat homes	**LIMITED**	Natural gas takes millions of years to form.
3	3. Rocky Mountain coal burned to make electricity	**LIMITED**	Coal takes millions of years to form.
4	4. Pacific Northwest river water used to make electricity	**RENEWS**	The water cycle renews river water.
5	5. Southeast trees cut for lumber and replanted	**RENEWS**	New trees can grow when people replant them.
6	6. Mid-Continent oil used to make truck fuel	**LIMITED**	Oil takes millions of years to form.
7	7. Southwest sunlight used to make electricity	**RENEWS**	Sunlight arrives each day.
8	8. Minnesota iron ore used to make steel	**LIMITED**	The supply of iron ore in the ground is limited.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **RENEWS**: Ocean waves can generate electricity for homes.
- **LIMITED**: Vermont marble can be cut into floor tiles.

Challenge: In the Pacific Northwest, river water helps make electricity. Workers at power stations use that resource to provide electricity to homes.

For Part 2, accept any two numbered items with explanations about whether nature can replace each resource in a useful amount of time. For Part 3, accept other accurate examples that name a use.