Nature's First Stop

How workers gather natural products in three places

6.C.6.3.A "Primary Sector: Extraction and harvesting of natural products (e.g., Venezuela's Orinoco Belt, Chile's artisanal fishing, logging of Canada's boreal forests)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB In each paragraph, underline one natural product and circle one action that takes it from nature. Use your marks to find examples of primary-sector work.

From Water, Ground, and Forest

1. A fishing boat leaves a small port on Chile's Pacific coast before sunrise. Two fishers lower lines into the water and pull up fish to sell at the dock. They are harvesting a natural product, not making a new one in a factory. This kind of work belongs to the primary sector, which takes products directly from nature. A catch depends on where fish live and how many remain. Rules about fishing seasons and catch limits can help keep fish populations from shrinking.

2. Far from the coast, Venezuela's Orinoco Belt holds extra-heavy crude oil deep underground. Workers drill wells and pump the oil to the surface. Because this oil flows slowly, it may need help moving through pipes. The oil is a natural product taken from the ground, so drilling and pumping are primary-sector work. Turning crude oil into gasoline is a different step that happens after extraction. Oil wells can disturb land and water, so workers must manage spills and waste carefully.

3. In Canada's boreal forest, a crew cuts selected trees and loads the trunks onto trucks. The trunks are logs, a natural product harvested from a forest. Cutting and collecting them is primary-sector work. At a mill, machines may later turn the logs into boards, which is a different kind of work. Harvesting changes the forest where birds and other animals live. Some logging plans leave areas uncut and require new trees to grow, but a forest takes time to recover.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What natural product do the fishers in Chile harvest, and how do they take it from nature?

2. What natural product do workers take from Venezuela's Orinoco Belt, and how do they take it from the ground?

3. Which work in the Canadian forest belongs to the primary sector? How is it different from the work at the mill?

4. How are the fishing job and the logging job alike, even though workers use different tools?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a natural product not named in the passage. In three sentences, tell where workers find it, how they take it directly from nature, and why that work belongs to the primary sector.

ANSWER KEY

Nature's First Stop

GRADE 6 · 6.C.6.3.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

In each paragraph, underline one natural product and circle one action that takes it from nature. Use your marks to find examples of primary-sector work. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What natural product do the fishers in Chile harvest, and how do they take it from nature?	**They harvest fish by lowering lines into the water and pulling the fish up.**
2	What natural product do workers take from Venezuela's Orinoco Belt, and how do they take it from the ground?	**They drill wells and pump extra-heavy crude oil to the surface.**
3	Which work in the Canadian forest belongs to the primary sector? How is it different from the work at the mill?	**Cutting trees and collecting logs is primary-sector work because it takes a natural product from the forest. The mill later turns logs into boards.**
4	How are the fishing job and the logging job alike, even though workers use different tools?	**Both take natural products directly from nature: fish from the water and trees from the forest.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On a farm, workers find ripe cotton growing on plants. They pick the cotton from the plants and collect it in bags. Picking cotton is primary-sector work because workers harvest a natural product instead of making cloth in a factory.

For the marking job, accept fish and pull up, crude oil and pump, and trees or logs and cuts or collecting. For Your Turn, accept any product not named in the passage if the response identifies where it is found, describes its direct extraction or harvest, and explains why that work is in the primary sector.