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## Natural Resources

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People use resources to meet their needs. Air is a natural resource.

People need to breathe oxygen from the air.

They use wind, or moving air, as energy.



Water is a natural resource.
People need water to drink.
People use water to bathe and cook.

## Rocks and Soil



Rocks are natural resources.

People use rocks to build things.

Some rocks have metal in them.

The metal is used to make things like pots.



Soil is a natural resource. People use soil to grow plants. Plants and Animals



Plants and animals are natural resources.
They help people meet their need for food.
Wood from trees is used to make paper.
Cotton from plants is used to make clothes.

### **Pollution**



Pollution harms natural resources.

Dirty air can harm your lungs.

Dirty water can make people and animals ill.

## Wasting Resources



People sometimes waste resources. They may let water keep running. They might forget to turn off lights. Burning trees wastes resources, too.

## Reuse, Reduce, Recycle



People can choose to use resources wisely.
They can reduce how much they use.
They also can reuse things.
People can recycle paper, glass, and metal.

# Conserving Resources

A dam stores water.



Windmills help people use the energy from moving air.

We use coal, gas, and oil for energy.
These resources will be used up.
If we use them carefully, they will last.
Using other sources of energy can help.

### Endangered Animals



▲ endangered wolves

Some animals are endangered.

If they are not protected, they may all die.

We must protect places where animals live.

We can move animals to protected places.

#### Vocabulary

endangered, p. 11
natural resources,
p. 2
pollution, p. 7
recycle, p. 9
reduce, p. 9
resources, p. 2
reuse, p. 9

#### **Think About the Reading**

- 1. What questions do you have after reading this book?
- **2.** How can you find the answers to these questions?

#### **Hands-On Activity**

- **1.** List your activities for a day.
- **2.** Next to each activity, write the natural resources you used.

#### **School-Home Connection**

Tell a family member what you have read about natural resources. Talk with the family member about ways to use resources wisely.