

Name: KEY Date: _____ Period: _____

Natural Resources

Nonrenewable Resource Demonstration:

What is a nonrenewable resource?

A resource that cannot replenish itself at all OR fast enough to meet long term demands.

1. What generation is your group? (varies depending on class)
2. How much of the resource did your group select? (varies depending on class)
3. What happened as each generation went to select from the resources?

In most cases, we should see a gradual decrease in the amount of the resource available for selection.

4. Did what generation you were in make a difference in how much resource you were able to take? Why?

Yes. The later generations had less of the resource to obtain and distribute. This is because the resource is nonrenewable.

5. Did any generation think about those who might be coming after them, or were they only trying to get as much resource as they could?

Some generations thought about the next and some did not. Trends showed that earlier generations thought less about it than later generations.

6. How is this demonstration like real life?

We are facing similar issues in real-life today. Coal and fossil fuels are continuing to decrease in quantity as demand continues to rise.

7. What are some problems associated with obtaining, using, and distributing nonrenewable natural resources?

- not everyone gets the same amount of resources
- have to come up with substitute resources
- some resources will drastically change the environment

Renewable Resource Demonstration:

What is a renewable resource?

a resource that can be replenished or that can replenish itself over time.

1. What generation is your group?
2. How much of the resource did your group select?
3. What happened as each generation went to select from the resources? Was it the same or different from what happened during the nonrenewable resource demonstration?

The initial selection was similar to the first simulation, but putting half back was helpful to later generations.

4. Why did only half of the resources your group selected get put back?

Because each generation still must USE some of the resource.

5. Did what generation you were in make a difference for how much resource you were able to take? Why?

it could affect you if the generation before you is irresponsible and takes too much. Otherwise, it should not greatly affect you because the resource will renew itself from one generation to the next.

6. Is it possible to run out of a renewable resource?

It is not as likely as with nonrenewable resources, but it is possible if we are irresponsible. Also, the risk of running out is greater with BIOTIC resources than with ABIOTIC resources.

7. How is this demonstration like real life?

We constantly have to think about how much is too much to take.

8. What are some problems associated with obtaining, using, and distributing renewable natural resources?

→ Some generations are irresponsible.
→ Sometimes the resource cannot renew fast enough.
→ Sometimes even with renewable resources, there is not enough for everyone to have an equal share.