Year 6 Geography: Protecting the Environment

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY	
sustainability	using natural resources responsibly, so they can support both present and future generations
endangered	a species that is very likely to become extinct in the near future,
extinction	termination of a species. The moment of death of the last individual of the species.
mineral	substances that are formed naturally in the Earth. They make up Earth's rocks, sands and soils
renewable	a natural resource that cannot be used up or it is one that can be replaced within a human life span e.g. air, water, soil, plants, and animals.
non-renewable	natural resources that cannot be replaced after they are used. This means that they exist in a fixed amount on Earth e.g. rock, minerals, metals, uranium, and fossil fuels such as petroleum, coal, and natural gas are all non-renewable resource
habitat destruction	a habitat that is no longer able to support the plants, animals, or other organisms that live in it. When this happens, the organisms could die. Some might move to other places.
conservation	protection of things found in nature. It requires the sensible use of all Earth's natural resources: water, soil, minerals, wildlife, and forests.
environment	All the physical surroundings on Earth, includes everything living and everything non-living
recycle	a way to reduce the amount of rubbish that is thrown away by reusing the materials of which it is made

Non-renewable sources of energy

Renewable sources of energy



















Ways to conserve resources at home

- · Turn the tap off when brushing teeth.
- · Turn the heating down and wear a jumper at home.
- · Holiday in the UK rather than flying abroad.
- · Switch things off when not in use e.g. TV, lights.
- · Air dry clothes rather than tumble dry.
- · Walk to school rather than using the car.
- · Drink tap water not bottled water.
- · Have a shower instead of a bath.
- · Recycle household waste.



Non-renewable minerals

Minerals such as rocks, oil, coal and metals are extracted, mined or quarried from the earth for human use.

Most metals occur in rocks as ores which have to be crushed and processed to obtain the metal.

Minerals are in fact non-renewable natural resources, and we need to think sustainably about their use.

Non-renewable minerals are used to make many household items and technologies. For example:

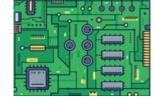
Copper is used to make electrical wiring.

Lithium is used to make batteries

Gold is used to make circuit boards.







Renewable Energy	
Wind energy	Wind turbines are used to convert wind energy to electricity. The wind blows the blades around and this movement is converted into electricity. A group of wind turbines is called a wind farm.
Solar energy	Solar energy comes from the sun. The sun can be used to give us heat energy. Solar panels can be used to convert sunlight into electrical energy.
Geothermal energy	It is very warm underground, even if it is cold on the surface. We can collect heat rom underground and use it to heat our houses.
Biomass energy	Biomass means 'natural material'. Energy is obtained by burning scrap pieces of wood, dead trees or unused parts of crops.
Hydro Energy	Hydro energy is energy that comes from the power of moving water. Water that flows through fast-flowing rivers is used to spin turbines that generate electricity. The movement of big waves at sea can also be used to generate electricity.

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