

Natural Resources - Research Assignment

Using the Internet and the links provided, answer all questions on a SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER.

Part 1:

Background Questions: (*Use the Internet to find your answers.*)

1. Where does the electricity in our homes here in Lakewood, Colorado come from?
2. Where does the oil used in our vehicles here in Colorado come from?
3. How do oil companies get oil and gasoline from the ground? Explain the process.

Part 2:

Smithsonian Institute - Gulf Oil Spill Interactive: Using the link below, read the news article and answer the questions below

<http://ocean.si.edu/gulf-oil-spill-interactive>

HOME-

1. What caused the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico?
2. How long did it take to stop the oil spill?
3. How many people died?

THE DISASTER-

1. How did the Deepwater Horizon explode?
2. How big was the oil slick?
3. Click the interactive icon and answer: Name three cities that were close to the spill.

THE CLEANUP-

1. What happened to the oil rig?
2. Why did workers want to clean the oil up before it reached the shore?
3. Click the interactive icon and answer: What did workers use to clean wildlife covered in the oil?
4. Click the interactive icon and answer: Name the 5 processes used to clean up the oil.

DISPERSANTS-

1. What is a dispersant and why was it used?
2. What eventually happened to the dispersants? Click the interactive icons for more info.

OPEN OCEAN-

1. What was affected by the oil in the open ocean?

DEEP SEA-

1. How much oil ended up on the seafloor and where is it?
2. Interactive: What is sea snot?
3. Interactive: What happened to the deep sea coral?

THE COAST-

1. What happens to estuaries? See interactive link.
2. What happens to marshes? See interactive link.

TODAY-

1. How is the Gulf of Mexico doing today?
2. Infer on who is responsible for this website. Who (what company) is the author?

Part 3:

BP - Oil Spill: Using the link below, read the news article and answer the questions below

<http://www.bp.com/sectiongenericarticle800.do?categoryId=9036575&contentId=7067541>

1. Who is BP oil? (Click on "About BP", then "At a Glance")
2. How was this article different from the PBS article? What was the point of view, for or against BP Oil Co?
3. Why do you think these 2 articles are so different?

Part 4:

GET ENERGIZED! CD ROM: Access the CD ROM using the instructions below on DESKTOP COMPUTERS IN ROOM A112.

- Click on the Shared R: Alameda drive. (under My Computer)
- Click on the "Students" folder.
- Find the Earth Science folder and click on the Natural Resources folder.
- Click on the "CLICK HERE TO START" button. on the bottom right of the folder.

At the home page, there are 3 pentagons: An Energy Snapshot, Powering Our Planet, and Watt Do You Know.

- Go to Powering Our Planet: (Click on the middle icon.)

Click on the red and white tower titled Colorado's Energy Story. Click on the categories and watch the videos to answer the questions below.

↘HOW COLORADANS USE ENERGY

1. How many gallons of gasoline do Coloradans use each day for transportation?
2. How is most of Colorado's coal used?
3. How many barrels of oil does Colorado produce each day?
4. Almost 75% of homes in Colorado are heated by . _____

↘NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES

5. The richest deposits of oil shale in the United States are found in the _____
_____ Formation in Colorado.
6. Name the two Colorado basins mentioned in the video that are rich in coal bed methane resources.

↘RENEWABLE RESOURCES

7. What are two renewable energy sources in use in Colorado?

↘FINDING & EXTRACTING RESOURCES

8. How do scientists figure out where to drill for oil and natural gas?
9. What are the benefits of Unitization in oil and gas development?

↘ENERGY AND THE ECONOMY

10. How many acres of land does BLM manage in Colorado? How many acres of subsurface mineral estate?

↘WHAT DO YOU VALUE?

11. Most of the Carbon dioxide resources found beneath Canyons of the Ancients National Monument are exported to _____ and _____. How is the Carbon dioxide used?
12. What things does the BLM need to balance in order to manage the public lands for Colorado's citizens?
13. How does the Bureau of Land Management work to achieve this balance?

Part 5:

Using the left arrow from the main menu, find the blue house titled Conservation and You, and click on it.

1. Kitchen: The kitchen is loaded with energy saving tips. List 5 of them.
2. Living Room: What is the Energy Star program?
3. Living Room: How can you save energy with your thermostat?
4. Garage/Yard: Name 3 ways to save energy that are mentioned in the garage/yard.
5. Bedroom: How can you be sure your computer or DVD player is really off (i.e., not using electricity)?
6. Bathroom: Three of the energy saving suggestions in the bathroom could be used in other parts of the house as well. What are they?

