



## Lesson Plan: Natural Resources

**Grade Level:** 3

**Subject:** Earth Science

**Duration:** 45–60 min

**NGSS 3-LS4-4:** Make a claim about the merit of a solution to a problem caused when the environment changes and the types of plants and animals that live there may change.

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- **Distinguish** between renewable and non-renewable natural resources with examples
- **Define** conservation and explain why it is essential for future survival
- **Apply** the concepts of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle to daily life scenarios



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**Materials Needed:** (all links are included in this PDF)

- Study Guide (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2.pdf>)
- Assessment Quiz (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-0.pdf>)
- Conservation Practice Worksheet  
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-1.pdf>)



- Recycling & 3Rs Worksheet (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-2.pdf>)
- Vocabulary Matching Worksheet (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-1.pdf>)

## Lesson Procedure

### Step 1: Introduction (5 minutes)

- Engage students by pointing to objects in the classroom (wooden desk, metal chair, plastic cup) and asking: 'What raw material from nature was used to make this?'
- Introduce the concept that everything comes from nature, categorized as 'Natural Resources'.

Distribute the Study Guide and review the definition of natural resources on Page 1.



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[resources-2-1.pdf](#)

- Conduct a verbal sorting activity: Name an item (e.g., 'Sunshine', 'Gasoline', 'Wind', 'Gold') and have students give a thumbs up for Renewable or thumbs down for Non-renewable.

### Step 4: Independent Practice (10 minutes)

- Students complete the Conservation Practice Worksheet, answering questions about wetlands, soil protection, and examples of resources. (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-1.pdf>)



- Assign the Recycling & 3Rs Worksheet to reinforce the 'Three Rs' and identify recyclable materials. (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-2.pdf>)

## Step 5: Assessment (5 minutes)

- Administer the Assessment Quiz to evaluate student mastery of the key concepts. (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-0.pdf>)
- Review answers as a class, focusing on why certain resources are considered non-renewable.

### Differentiation Strategies

For advanced learners:



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### Complete List of Available Resources:

- Topic Page: Natural Resources (<https://newpathworksheets.com/science/grade-3/natural-resources-2>)
- Study Guide (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2.pdf>)
- Assessment Quiz (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-0.pdf>)



- Conservation Practice Worksheet  
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-1.pdf>)
- Recycling & 3Rs Worksheet (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-2.pdf>)
- Vocabulary Matching Worksheet  
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-3-natural-resources-2-1.pdf>)



# NEW PATH LEARNING



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# NEW PATH LEARNING

## NATURAL RESOURCES

**Natural resources** are found on the Earth and are important to living things.

**Some natural resources** come from below the Earth's surface. People who dig in the ground to dig up rocks and gather **natural resources** are called miners. Certain rocks, called **ores**, contain metals, such as gold, silver, iron and other **minerals** that people use everyday.

### *Lesson Checkpoint: What is a natural resource?*

#### Renewable Resources

Some **natural resources** are **renewable**, which means that can be replaced. These are an example of a **renewable resource**. Three examples are:



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*Lesson Checkpoint: What are three natural resources that Earth has an endless supply of?*

## Nonrenewable Resources

Some **natural resources** are **nonrenewable**, which means that can NOT be replaced. Iron is an example of a **nonrenewable natural resource**. Coal is another nonrenewable resource. Coal is burned and releases energy. This energy is used for many things, such as generating electricity and heat. We can dig up coal from the earth, but once the Earth's supply of coal is gone, it can't be replaced. Oil is another **nonrenewable natural resource**. Oil is used in many things, including gasoline, which makes our cars run. Since there are many **nonrenewable resources** that are important to us, we need to use them wisely and carefully.

### *Lesson Checkpoint: What is a nonrenewable natural resource?*

We can use our resources wisely by **CONSERVING** those important resources. **Conservation** is a way of using things wisely without wasting them.



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*Lesson Checkpoint: What is one way you can conserve water at home?*

Soil is another **natural resource** that we need to **conserve** and use wisely. Soil needs to be protected from wind and water that cause erosion and it needs to be enriched with nutrients at times.

Leaves and grass clippings can be turned into compost instead of being thrown away. **Compost** is decayed grass and leaves that you can add to your soil to provide nutrients.

### **Lesson Checkpoint: What is compost?**

## **Reducing Our Trash**

Where does all our smelly garbage go to anyway? A **landfill** is a large area where trash is collected and buried. A liner is placed on a landfill before trash is buried on the land so that the groundwater under the landfill is not



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any place, device, and environment that you can access and use over again, rather than using paper products.

## **Reuse**

We can **reuse** certain items instead of throwing them away. For example, instead of throwing away a shoebox, we could reuse it and store something like pictures inside of it instead.

## Recycle

Paper, plastic, aluminum, and glass, can be placed in special collection containers which are collected by a Recycling Truck. These items are taken to places where the items can be made into something new. This process is called **recycling**.

A central image within a blue-bordered box. It features a row of diverse cartoon children standing on a green hill. Above them are four thought bubbles containing various educational icons: a cube, a microscope, a triangle, a laboratory flask, a globe, a red arrow, an atom model, a pie chart, the letters 'ABC', a bar graph, and various mathematical symbols like multiplication, division, and plus signs. The text 'PREVIEW' is centered below the illustration, and a message encouraging sign-in or sign-up for download is displayed below it.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1

What type of **resources** are found on the earth which are important to living things?



- A** natural resources
- B** unnatural resources
- C** man-made resources
- D** materials made by machines

2

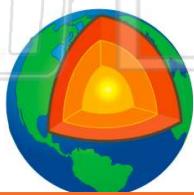
Some **natural resources** are **renewable**, which means they can be replaced or recreated so that we don't run out. What is an example of a **renewable resource**?



- A** coal
- C** trees
- B** oil
- D** electricity

3

Where do many **natural resources** come from?



- A** space
- B** machines

4

People who dig up **rocks** and **natural resources** are called \_\_\_\_\_.



- A** pilots
- B** crewmen
- C** miners

5



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- B** non-renewable resource
- C** resource we can make again
- D** resource found in trees

- B** carving wood
- C** creating gasoline
- D** generating electricity and heat

9

We can dig up **coal** from the earth, but once the earth's supply of coal is gone, it cannot be replaced.



- A** true
- B** false

10

Oil is **natural resource**. Oil is made into **gasoline**, which makes our cars run. Oil is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.



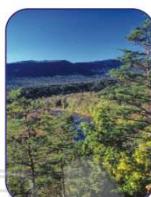
- A** non-renewable resource
- B** renewable resource
- C** above-ground resource
- D** resource from the sky



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 What type of **resources** are found on the earth which are important to living things?

- A natural resources
- B unnatural resources
- C man-made resources
- D materials made by machines



A

2 Some **natural resources** are **renewable**, which means they can be replaced or recreated so that we don't run out. What is an example of a **renewable resource**?

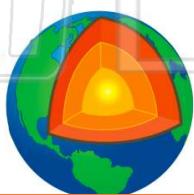
- A coal
- B oil
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C

3 Where do many **natural resources** come from?

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D

4 People who dig up **rocks** and **natural resources** are called \_\_\_\_\_.

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- B crewmen
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C

5



A

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- B non-renewable resource
- C resource we can make again
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- B cutting wood
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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1

What are three examples of a **natural resources** that earth receives or has a lot of and are available for plants and creatures on earth to use?

- A** coal, oil, and rain
- B** coal, iron, and steel
- C** coal, oil, and wood
- D** sunlight, air, and water



2

Since there are many **non-renewable resources** that are important to us, what do we need to do with those resources?

- A** use them carefully
- B** use them carelessly
- C** use them as much as possible
- D** don't use them ever



3

\_\_\_\_\_ is a way of using things wisely **without wasting** them.

- A** Preservation
- B** Collecting
- C** Conservation



4

What is one way you can **conserve water**?

- A** use your sprinkler often
- B** turn off the faucet while you brush your teeth



5



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- C** vegetables
- D** fruit



- C** bugs
- D** plastic and glass



9

What is a **landfill**?

- A** area where you can park old cars
- B** area where trash is recycled
- C** place where trash is burned
- D** large area where trash is collected and buried



10

Why is trash placed on top of a **liner** in a **landfill** before it is buried?

- A** to keep out worms
- B** to keep away bugs
- C** so the trash doesn't smell anymore
- D** so that the groundwater is not polluted





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1

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- A Preservation
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C

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What is one way you can **conserve water**?

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B

5



A

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A

- C vegetables
- D fruit



- C bugs
- D plastic and glass



9

What is a **landfill**?



D

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Why is trash placed on top of a **liner** in a **landfill** before it is buried?



LINER

- A to keep out worms
- B to keep away bugs
- C so the trash doesn't smell anymore
- D so that the groundwater is not polluted

D



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1

What is one important reason to **reduce** the amount of trash we throw away?



- A because it conserves water
- B because trash smells terrible
- C because the landfills are filling up
- D because it is good to waste

2

There are several ways we can **reduce** the amount of trash that is sent to **landfills**. One way is to:



- A take shorter showers.
- B use a lot of paper products.
- C throw as much trash away as possible.
- D burn trash in a special furnace.

3

The **burning** of trash has several benefits: when we burn garbage it gives off **energy** that can be used to \_\_\_\_\_.



- A generate electricity
- B grow new grass

4

The **burning** of trash can have **harmful effects** on the environment. The smoke created when trash is burned can \_\_\_\_\_ the air.



- A add nutrients to
- B pollute

5



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- A using a checklist to store pictures in
- B buying things with a lot of packaging
- C buying a new toy

- A bicycling
- B recycling
- C remodeling
- D lecturing



9

**Recycling** is extremely important. Recycling is when we take trash made out of certain materials and \_\_\_\_\_.



- A throw it away at school
- B put it in a landfill
- C make it into new products
- D throw it in a trashcan

10

What are **four** main materials that can be **recycled**?



- A plastic, felt, cotton, and paper
- B paper, plastic, glass, and aluminum
- C glass, Styrofoam, paper, and pennies
- D aluminum, Styrofoam, cardboard, and glass



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1

What is one important reason to **reduce** the amount of trash we throw away?



C

2

There are several ways we can **reduce** the amount of trash that is sent to **landfills**. One way is to:



D

- A take shorter showers.
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- C throw as much trash away as possible.
- D burn trash in a special furnace.

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B

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- B pollute

5



B

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B

- using a shoebox to store pictures in
- C buying things with a lot of packaging
- D buying a new toy

- A bicycling
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- B paper, plastic, glass, and aluminum
- C glass, Styrofoam, paper, and pennies
- D aluminum, Styrofoam, cardboard, and glass





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Match each of the following terms to its definition:

Natural resource	Ore	Conservation	Landfill
Renewable resource	Recycling	Nonrenewable resource	Compost

1. - decayed grass and leaves that you can add to your garden which would add nutrients to the soil



2. - a way of using things wisely without wasting them



3. buried



4. source  
organ

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6. are ec  
economically profitable



7. reusing materials

- the system of treating, processing and



8. or at least replenished, as quickly as it is needed

- a resource that can be naturally restored,





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Match each of the following terms to its definition:**

Natural resource	Ore	Conservation	Landfill
Renewable resource	Recycling	Nonrenewable resource	Compost

**1. compost** - decayed grass and leaves that you can add to your garden which would add nutrients to the soil



**2. conservation** - a way of using things wisely without wasting them



**3. lan**



**4. nat**  
other

## PREVIEW

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**6. ore**  
profita



**7. recycling** - the system of treating, processing and reusing materials



**8. renewable resource** - a resource that can be naturally restored, or at least replenished, as quickly as it is needed

