

St John's Natural Resources Knowledge Organiser

10 important Natural Resources

Natural Resource	What is it?	What is it usually used for?
Phosphorite	Rock	Fertiliser
Uranium	Metal	Nuclear energy
Coltan	Metal	Electronic devices
Cobalt	Metal	Making engines
Coal, oil and natural gas	Fossil fuels	Energy
Soil	Biomass	Agriculture (farming)
Iron (Fe)	Metal	To make stainless steel (for example in knives and forks)
Air	Mixture of gases	Breathing and photosynthesis
Water	Liquid	Sustaining life of the planet
Timber	Biomass	Building homes and burning for fuel

Coal



Oil



Gas



Keywords

Natural resources	Materials that exist in the natural environment that are useful to humans. Most natural resources are unevenly distributed and exhaustible.
Exhaustible / non-renewable	A material that is exhaustible will run out and not last forever. It is non-renewable.
Consumption	The action of using a resource.
Abundance	A large quantity of a material.
Scarcity	A short supply of a material.
Fossil fuels	Coal, oil and gas. These are formed from the remains of plants and animals, that are changed into fossil fuels by millions of years of heat and pressure. They are non-renewable, exhaustible sources of energy..
Renewable	A material that will keep being generated, such as fish and forests. (Renewable resources can become exhaustible without careful management.)
Lucrative	Making lots of money.
Extraction	The removal of something, such as a natural resource.
Mining	The process of taking a natural resource out of the ground. It usually refers to the extraction of metals, stones and coal.



Iron



Copper



The world's natural resources are not evenly spread out.

This map shows where gold is mined and produced.



Oil Consumption by capita

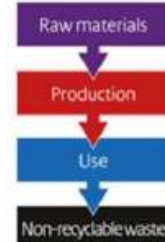


Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy (2014)

The world's resources are not evenly used around the world. This map shows how much oil is used per person.

The Linear Economy: "take, make, use, throw-away".

Linear economy



The Circular Economy: "take, make, use, re-use, re-make, take-less".

