



Natural Resources

Grades K-2

Lesson Summary

Students will explore the outdoors, identify natural resources, and discuss the wants and needs that those natural resources provide for them.

This is a great lesson for employing the help of friends and family as volunteers. The more positive guidance that the students have, the more enjoyable and effective the activity will be.

Objectives

Students will:

- * Define the term “natural resources.”

Natural resources are materials from the Earth that are used to support life and meet people’s needs. Any natural substance that humans use can be considered a natural resource. Oil, coal, metals, stone, and trees are natural resources. Other natural resources are air, sunlight, soil, and water.

- * Recognize the role of natural resources in daily life.
- * Define the difference between a want and a need.

Materials

- * A short video on natural resources, such as:
Natural Resources of the Earth (5 minutes):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qw6uXh9yM54&ab_channel=TurtlediaryI





Procedure

Inside:

1. Show your students a short video about natural resources.

Outside:

1. Take your student on an outdoor hike.
2. Ask students to identify natural resources that they see outside. Record student responses for later use.

Inside:

1. Write the list of natural resources identified by the students on the board.
2. Discuss what natural resources are necessary for human life (i.e. clean air, water, food, shelter, sleep, etc.). Explain that these necessities are needs.
3. Discuss how natural resources can make life more enjoyable. Explain that these niceties (i.e. ski trips, skating, building a snow fort, etc.) are wants.
4. Discuss what each natural resource from the list can provide to humans (i.e. wood for treehouses and books, water for swimming and squirt guns, snow for skiing and sledding, etc.).
5. Discuss why we need to conserve our natural resources and what students can do to help conserve these resources for the future.

Special Needs Students

Some students may require the help of an adult or peer assistant.

LEARN!
EXPLORE!
MOVE!

