



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

GEOGRAPHY: Are we damaging our World? Y6 SPRING TERM

KEY VOCABULARY:	
WORDS	MEANING
Biomass	biological material derived from living, or recently living organisms
Fossil fuel	buried organic material from decayed plants and animals that have been converted to oil, coal, and gas over hundreds of millions of years
Geothermal energy	heat drawn from inner layers of the Earth
Human feature	created by humans, e.g. roads, houses and canals
Hydro electricity	electricity that is created by the flow of water
Mineral	a solid substance with no origin as a previous life form
Non-renewable energy	energy from a source that can be used up and no longer be available
Physical feature	naturally occurring feature, e.g. rivers and mountains
Recycled	'discarded' or 'end-of-life items' converted into a reusable item or material
Renewable energy	energy source that will never be used
Solar energy	sunlight into electricity
Sustainability	ability to maintain balance between natural ecological systems through not harming the environment or using up resources that will run out
Tidal energy	a form of hydropower that converts the energy of tides into useful forms of power
Wave energy	the capture of energy from ocean surface waves for electricity generation
Wind power	energy extracted from wind using wind turbines to produce electrical power

KEY KNOWLEDGE:
QUESTION 1: What are the environmental threats to our planet?
ANSWER Climate Change – Heatwaves, droughts, flooding, storms, decrease in crop yields and rising sea levels are all the effects of climate change. Deforestation – This is one cause of climate change but is also responsible for reducing oxygen in the atmosphere and displacing wildlife. Pollution – Air pollution is the World's largest health risk. It poisons soil and waterways, kills plants and harms humans and animals. Oceanic Dead Zone – These occur when oxygen in water falls so that marine life cannot live. These are often caused by chemicals in water. Over Population – As the human population increases, this puts a stress on the environment and natural resources. Over Fishing – As a result of this many fish are on the brink of extinction. This has also reduced biodiversity.
QUESTION 2: Can minerals be used sustainably?
ANSWER The world's natural resources have conflicting demand on them and are difficult to manage. As minerals are finite, they need to be used carefully to slow down their usage. As a result Scientists are looking for other ways of producing energy whilst balancing the need for humans to live comfortably. Recycling is an example of reducing waste and therefore reducing the need to use extra resources.



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QUESTION 3: What types of energy are available?

ANSWER

Renewable resources can be used instead of finite resources e.g: tidal, wind or solar power instead of fossil fuels.

QUESTION 4: Why do we need to protect our oceans?

ANSWER

The oceans cover 70% of the earth's surface and contain 99% of living space on earth. Without this space there would be a significant reduction in the number of animals and plants on earth, causing issues for the bio-diversity of the planet. Oceans are also a source of oil/natural gas and minerals which are in short supply. Warm ocean water provide the energy to fuel storm systems that provide fresh water, vital to land dwelling animals and organisms.

RELATED INFORMATION:

MAP OF THE OCEANS



SUGGESTED WEBSITES TO FIND OUT MORE:

www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zyx6wxs

www.easyscienceforkids.com/all-about-caring-for-our-world