

6.1 Introducing conservation

Topic: Conservation

Subtopic: Water conservation

Activity type/skill: Orientation

Literacy focus: Vocabulary

Objective

- Provide orientation to the topic.
- Make links with prior knowledge.
- Link to the science and social studies curricula.
- Use an English language dictionary.

What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)

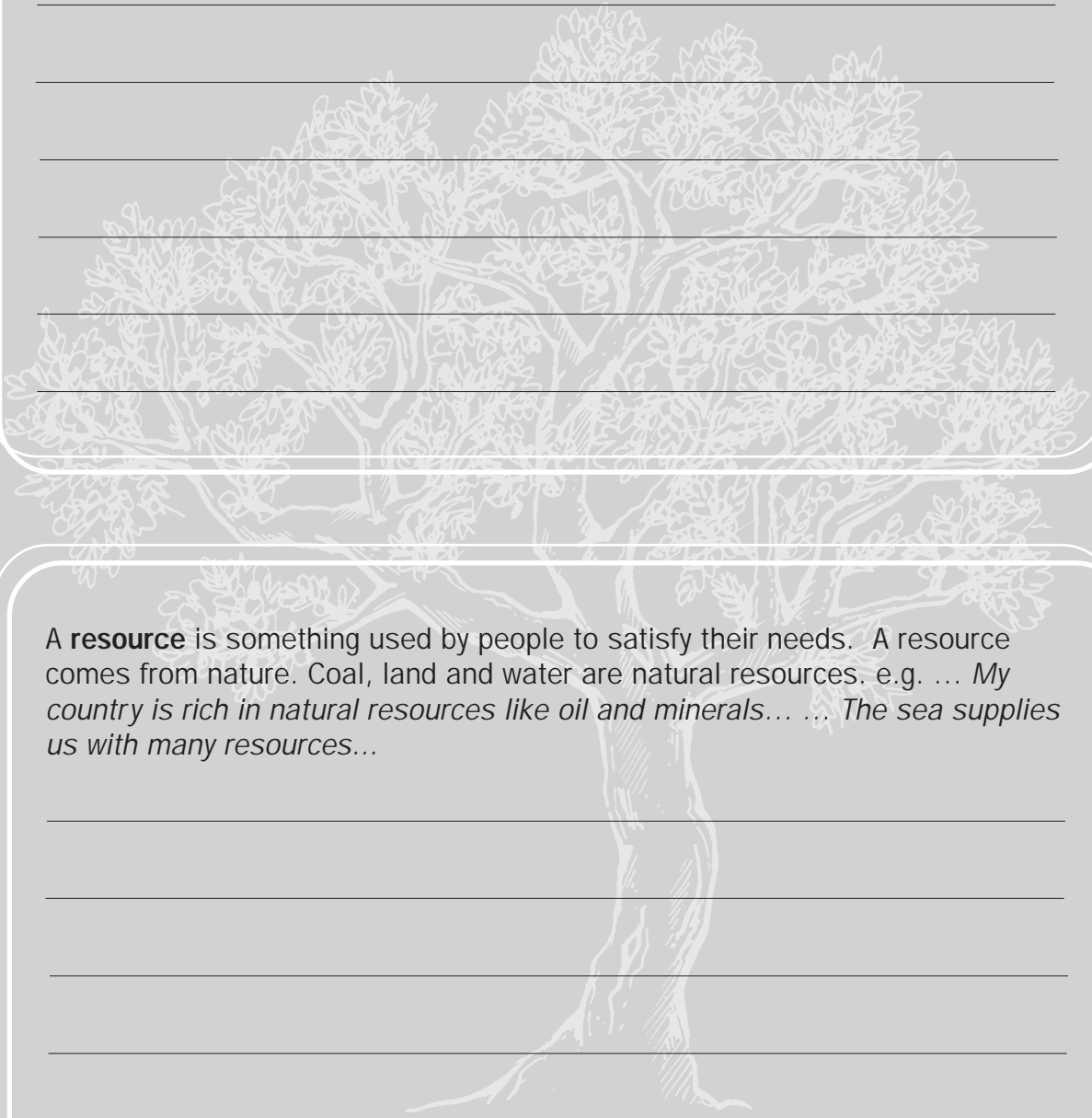
What to do

1. Look at the first page of the student worksheet and read and discuss the definition of conservation. Discuss and identify the parts of this dictionary entry – headword, definitions, usage.
2. Have the students look up the word 'conservation' in a good learner's dictionary. Have them identify the parts of the entry. Discuss any other parts. Phonetic information? Parts of speech? Alternative meanings? Encourage them to use all parts of the entry that are familiar to them. Have them copy the entry from their dictionary onto the lines in the worksheet and label the parts.
3. Repeat the process with the word 'resource' making sure they select the appropriate meaning from the entry.
4. Look at the second page of the student worksheet and read and discuss the information on natural resources. Encourage students to contribute their own knowledge of how resources can be used and the resources important in their own countries and how they are used.
5. Look at the third page of the student worksheet and read the information about water together. Discuss how water is used for:
 - drinking – bottled water, water from a pump or well, water from the tap, water in commercial or homemade drinks
 - watering crops and gardens – buckets, hoses, irrigation and so on
 - washing and cleaning – cleaning people, cleaning things, use and purpose of soap and detergents, methods of cleaning such as hand washing, hosing, washing machines, dishwashers and so on
 - industry – let the students tell you how water is used in any manufacturing process they know or supply an example from your own experience
 - producing energy – talk simply about hydro electricity, water wheels and mills or any other ways the students know where water is used to produce energy, not forgetting steam
 - transport – talk simply about water transport and the students' knowledge and experience of it.
6. Discuss other ways water can be used, for example, for enjoyment (swimming and water games), for religious purposes. Have the students draw three of them on the fourth page of the student worksheet.
7. Have them explain to the group how water is being used in their pictures. Read and talk about the differences in fresh water and salt water. Then help the students write four sentences about how they have used water in the last 24 hours.

Conservation

Conservation is the preservation and protection of the environment and the natural resources in it. e.g. ... *Kapiti Island is a conservation area where many native animals and plants are protected ...* ... *The Department of Conservation cares for national parks...*

A **resource** is something used by people to satisfy their needs. A resource comes from nature. Coal, land and water are natural resources. e.g. ... *My country is rich in natural resources like oil and minerals...* ... *The sea supplies us with many resources...*



Earth's resources

What are Earth's resources?



air

water

Four key resources are

the earth and substances
in the earth

living things

Resource

Air

All living things need the oxygen in the air to survive.

Water

All living things need water to survive. Living things cannot survive without water. People use water for drinking and cleaning.

The earth and substances in the earth

The earth itself is a resource. Plants must have soil to grow.

Minerals like iron and aluminium come from the earth. People use minerals in industry.

Fuels like oil and gas and coal come from the earth.

Living things

Living things need other living things to survive. Animals use other animals and plants for food and shelter. Plants need other plants as shelter.

Water

Water is a natural resource. It is something people use to satisfy their needs. It is found in nature.

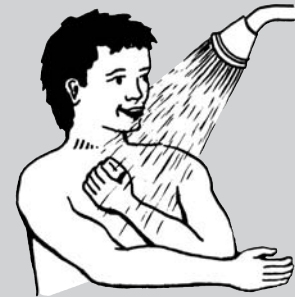
People need water for:



- drinking

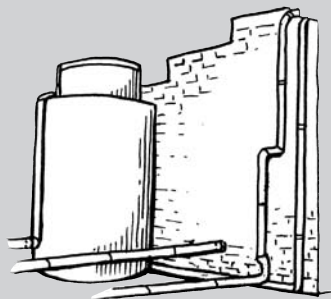


- watering crops and gardens

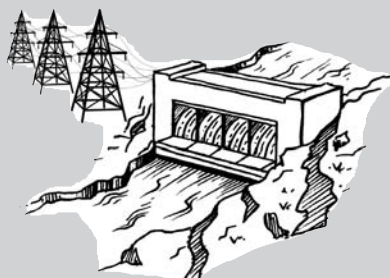


- washing and cleaning

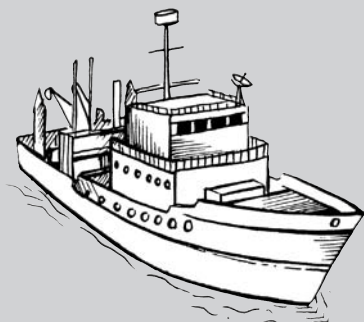
Water is also important in:



- industry



- producing energy



- transport

