

INV. 4 ACTIVITY—RESEARCH LOCAL NATURAL RESOURCES

Focus Question: What natural resources are in your area?

Natural resources are living or nonliving materials from the Earth such as rocks, minerals, soils, water, air, plants, animals, and fossil fuels. While there are natural resources everywhere on Earth, they may not all be the same.

Research the natural resources for your area. Find answers to these questions on the natural resources in your area.

1. What natural resources are found in your area?
2. Where are these natural resources located?
3. How are these natural resources used in my community?
How are they managed?
4. Are there any issues associated with their use? If so, what are those issues?
5. How can you make these resources sustainable?

Prepare a poster that organizes the information you discovered.

INV. 4 ACTIVITY—SUSTAIN NATURAL RESOURCES

Focus Question: How can you help sustain natural resources at home?

Natural resources are all around us, but as they are used up, the supplies are not automatically replenished. Some natural resources cannot be replaced, but many can be recycled or re-used. Rather than throwing away things once you're done using them, see if they can be recycled and or re-used. Set up a system to recycle natural resources in your home.

Materials:

- Containers to hold the natural resources you will reuse or recycle (plastic or cardboard boxes, large plastic bags, etc.)
- Natural resources such as plastics, metals, glass, paper, cardboard, metal ties, foil

Instructions:

1. Obtain holding containers for each type of natural resource you will **recycle** and label them. Have a separate container for materials that you will save and **reuse**.
2. Put them in a place where they are out of the way, but visible enough so that you and your family members will remember to place them in the containers instead of in the garbage.
3. As you use things, rinse them out and place the materials in the proper container you set up.
4. Research your next steps for the materials you've saved for recycling. Some questions to research and think about are below.
 - a. Does your garbage service handle recycling? If so, do you need a separate garbage container just for recyclables? Do you need to separate recyclables in a certain way for the garbage service?
 - b. Are all plastics recyclable? If not, which ones are, and which ones aren't? How do you identify them?
 - c. Some products, such as plastic water bottles and soda cans, charge a deposit when you purchase them. If you bring back the empty container to a recycling center, you can get your deposit back. Research if there are any such centers near you. Bring those recyclables to the center when you are able to for redemption.
 - d. How can we reduce our use of materials that we can't easily recycle?
How can we reuse containers and other materials?

INV. 4 ACTIVITY—NATURAL RESOURCES COLLAGE

Focus Question: Can you use natural resources from your area to create an artistic collage?

Natural resources are everywhere. Go on a natural resources hunt in your yard and collect things you find interesting. Look for properties such as shape, texture, shine, etc. that you would want to include in your collage. A collage is a piece of artwork that is made by gluing different materials (in this case, natural resources) to create a picture or story onto a backing like a piece of poster board.

Materials:

- Natural resources from your yard
- Poster board or piece of cardboard
- Glue

Instructions:

1. Go out in your yard (or neighborhood if you are able) to find samples of natural resources that you can use to create a collage. (Some things you might find interesting include small, shiny pebbles, leaves, pieces of wood, etc.)
2. Create a collage with the resources you collected. Your collage could be formed into a picture of your choosing or you could make the pieces tell a story of the natural resources you found. For example, you create a collage picture of yourself using pebbles for your body and face, leaves for your hair, twigs for your arms and legs, etc.

INV. 4 ACTIVITY—NATURAL RESOURCES MEDIA

Online Resources on FOSSweb (Must log in to FOSSweb with a username and password)

Use these online resources to help review content from **Investigation 4 of Soils, Rocks, and Landforms**. The **tutorials and virtual investigations** provide interactive resources that review concepts from the FOSS active investigations. The virtual investigations often mimic the active investigations that were done in class.

For the articles in *FOSS Science Resources*, access the **interactive eBook** and make sure to click on the interactive links within the readings. Take notes on what you learn from the online resources and respond to the questions from the articles in your science notebook.

All online resources can be accessed when your child logs into his/her teacher's Class Page on FOSSweb.

Investigation 4 Resources

Online activities

- Resource ID
- Virtual Investigation—Natural Resources

Media Library

FOSS eBook Readings (Interactive eBook)

- *Monumental Rocks*
- *Geoscientists at Work*
- *Making Concrete*
- *Earth Materials in Art*
- *Where do Rocks Come From?*

Streaming Video

- *Natural Resources*