

Conserving Earth's Resources

Note-taking Guide: Answer Key

conserve, recycle, petroleum, freshwater, natural resources, recycling, sheets, mineral, shredded, factory, plastic, turning off, amount, folders, resources, used, aluminum, plant, reuse, jars, saving, soil, paper, new, reduce, replaced

Natural resources are those resources that exist naturally on Earth. Some examples of natural resources include sunlight, air, water, soil, plants, animals, minerals, coal, and petroleum.

Some natural resources such as freshwater, petroleum, and minerals are at a risk of running out. Trees are being cut down faster than they can be replaced.

We can reduce the amounts of resources that we use. We can also reuse things that can be used again. We should also recycle things that we have finished using. This way, we can conserve some natural resources.

We can conserve freshwater by reducing the amount of water we use to bathe and by turning off water faucets when they are not in use.

We can also reduce usage of paper by writing on both sides of a sheet. This is a good way of saving trees, which is where we get paper from.

We can reuse some resources to conserve them. For example, petroleum can be conserved by reusing petroleum products.

For example, plastic bags can be reused. So can plastic jars!

We could also put new stickers on old plastic folders to reuse them.

Plant products, such as paper, can also be reused. Waste paper can be shredded and reused as packing material.

Some things, such as this empty aluminum soda can, cannot be reused and must be thrown away.

For example, used soda cans can be recycled and made into new cans, thus recycling the mineral aluminum.

Recycling is when we make new products from old and used objects.

Used aluminum cans are sent to a recycling factory where they are turned into brand new cans and tins.

Used up paper is sent to the paper recycling factory. Here, the used up paper is made into brand new sheets.