Chapter 4: Natural Resources

Lesson 1: Air and Water Resources

Essential Questions:

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| Why is it important to manage air and water resources wisely? | Air and water are resources that we cannot live without.  Oxygen from the air is used to provide energy for your cells. (Mitochondria and cellular respiration).  Water is the universal solvent and is required by most chemical reactions in cells.  Without oxygen and water, cells could not do their jobs. |
| How can individuals help manage air and water resourced wisely? | Re Earth friendly.  Three R’s  Reduce waste. Reuse materials. Recycle to produce less waste. Purchase appliances that |
| Key Terms |  |
| Air | Air contains oxygen which we need to survive. If the air we breathe becomes polluted by burning fossil fuels it can be harmful to us. Air can also be polluted by natural events such as volcanic eruptions and forest fires. |
| Smog | A form of air pollution that comes from the burning of fossil fuels. It releases not only energy, but nitrogen compounds as well. |
| Photochemical smog | Is a brownish haze produced when nitrogen compounds and other pollutants in the air rea in the presence of sunlight. |
| Acid precipitation | Nitrogen and sulfur compounds released when fossil fuels burn can react with water in the atmosphere to produce acid precipitation (acid rain). It can kill fish in lakes, trees in a forest and even damage statues. |
| Natural events | Forest fires and volcanic eruptions release gases, ash, and dust into the air. These can actually spread around the world. These can contribute to climate change and cause other respiratory health problems. |
| Water | There is a relatively small amount of fresh/drinkable water on this planet. Only 0.9% of the water on this planet is drinkable. The rest is salt water 97% or stored in glaciers. |
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