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Academic Education CBSE › Class 8 › Social Science

Natural Resources and Their Use

Understanding Natural Resources and Their Importance

DEFINITION

> Natural resources are materials or substances found in nature that are useful to humans. They can be renewable or non-renewable and are essential for our survival and economic development.

KEY CONCEPTS

Renewable Resources

These are resources that can be replenished naturally over time, such as sunlight, wind, and water.

Non-Renewable Resources

These resources exist in finite amounts and cannot be replaced once used, like coal, oil, and natural gas.

Conservation

Conservation involves using resources wisely to prevent depletion and ensure sustainability for future generations.

Resource Management

This refers to the careful planning and use of natural resources to maximize their benefits while minimizing environmental impact.

Human Impact

Human activities can significantly affect the availability and quality of natural resources, leading to depletion and pollution.

EXAMPLES

→ Using solar panels for energy generation.

→ Planting trees to promote biodiversity.

→ Recycling paper to conserve forests.

MEMORY TIPS

★ Remember 'R' for Renewable and 'N' for Non-renewable to distinguish types.

★ Use the acronym 'C.R.E.H.' for Conservation, Resources, Environment, and Human impact.

★ Visualize a tree for renewable resources and a coal mine for non-renewable.

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Confusing renewable and non-renewable resources.

✗ Underestimating the importance of conservation.

✗ Ignoring the impact of human activities on resources.

QUICK RECAP

Natural resources are vital for human life and can be categorized into renewable and non-renewable. Understanding their use and management is essential for sustainability and environmental protection.