Lesson Plan

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Types of Energy: What's Good (& Not So Good)?

By: Jessica Shaffer
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Science
Grades 6–8

Introduction

Change is good! Look into different types of renewable and nonrenewable energy sources and investigate the advantages and disadvantages of each one!

Learning Objectives

(NGSS.MS-PS3 Energy) WALT describe different types of renewable/nonrenewable energy and the advantages and disadvantages of each.

Materials Needed

- Chromebook/tablet/computer
- Renewable/Nonrenewable Resource worksheet

Procedure

1. Pass out the Renewable/Nonrenewable Resource Worksheet. Go over the different questions on the worksheet and clearly explain the expectations to the students. This can be utilized as a simple classwork grade, or it can be graded and counted as a quiz or project (webquest). Make sure to go over the first question with the class to make sure students clearly understand the difference between renewable and nonrenewable resources.
2. Share the following links with the students. Make sure to preview each one before you share it, as they can change frequently.
   - BrainPOP: (64 different videos/resources- a few are specifically linked below)
     - Nuclear Energy
     - Wind Energy
     - Solar Energy
     - Fossil Fuels
   - Renewable Energy Explained (EIA)
   - Renewable Energy
   - National Geographic - Renewable Energy

Continued on page 2

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Continued from page 1

- Renewable Energy Types (EDF)
- Nonrenewable Energy: National Geographic
- What is the Future of Nonrenewable Energy?

3. Students will research each different type of energy and understand advantages and disadvantages of each. Students will need to determine whether the type of energy is renewable or nonrenewable, define it, and determine the advantages and disadvantages of each. You can have students work in small groups/pairs in order to promote collaboration, or individually.

Evaluation

This can be counted as a classwork grade or as a graded assignment. If you wish to count it as a graded assignment, the point values of the questions are as follows:

- #1: 4 points
- #2: 3 points (one point per example)
- #3: 3 points (one point per example)
- #4-11: 10 points each (4 points for definition, 3 points for advantages, 3 points for disadvantages)
- #12: 10 points