



Energy Source Detective

Energy Source Detective is a critical thinking activity to reinforce understanding of the basic characteristics of the major energy sources.

Grades

▪ 2–4

Preparation

▪ Low

Time

▪ 10 minutes

Get Ready

Make one copy of the activity on page 41 for each student.

Go

- Distribute a copy of the activity to each student.
- Explain to the students how to complete each energy source box, using hydropower as an example. The students begin with number 1 and decide whether the energy source is 1a or 1b, write the correct number in the box, draw an arrow, then follow the directions after the number until they discover the name of the energy source. When they discover the correct name, they write it at the bottom of the box.

For the example for hydropower, the students must first decide whether hydropower is renewable or nonrenewable. It is renewable, so 1a is the first number to be written in the box. They follow the directions to 2 and decide whether the source can be burned. Hydropower is not burned, so they write the number 2b and follow the directions to the next clue, until they discover the name of the energy source.



Energy Source Detective

1a Renewable go to 2

1b Nonrenewable go to 6

2a Can be burned Biomass

2b Is not burned go to 3

3a Energy from space Solar

3b Energy in/on the Earth go to 4

4a Inside the Earth Geothermal

4b On the Earth's surface go to 5

5a Moving water Hydropower

5b Moving air Wind

6a Fossil fuel go to 7

6b Energy-rich mineral Uranium

7a A gas go to 8


7b A solid or liquid go to 9

8a Moved by pipeline Natural Gas

8b Shipped in tanks Propane

9a Mined from the Earth Coal

9b Pumped from the Earth Petroleum

<p>1a → 2b → 3b → 4b → 5a</p>  <p>hydropower</p>	