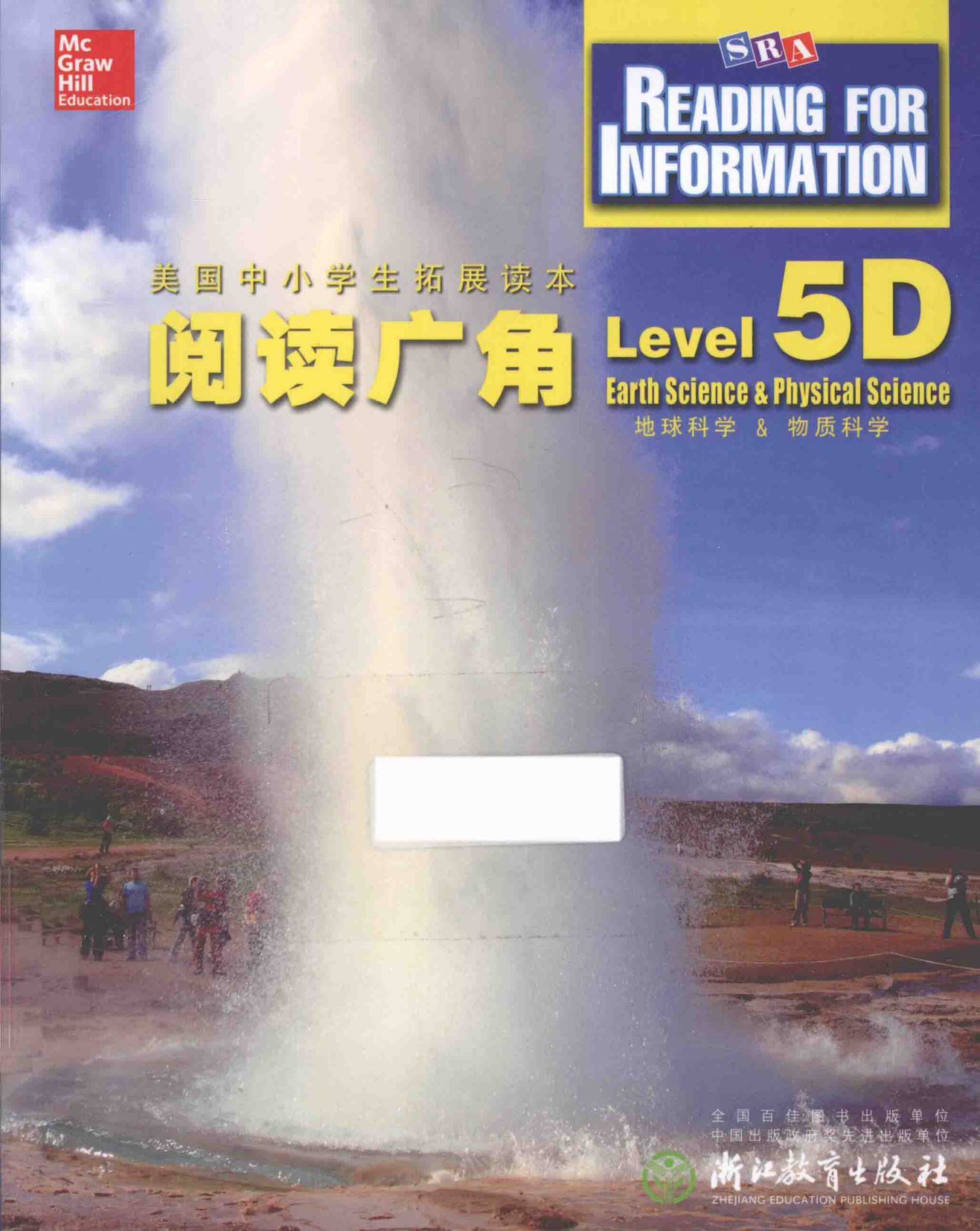
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READING FOR INFORMATION

Earth Science & Physical Science

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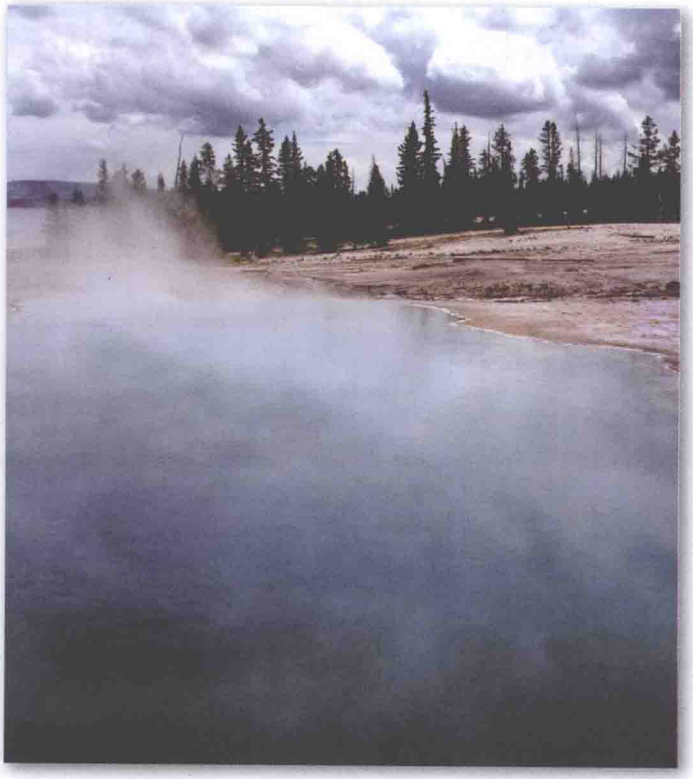
EARTH SCIENCE

Earth's Resources



READING for INFORMATION
Earth Science

Before You Read

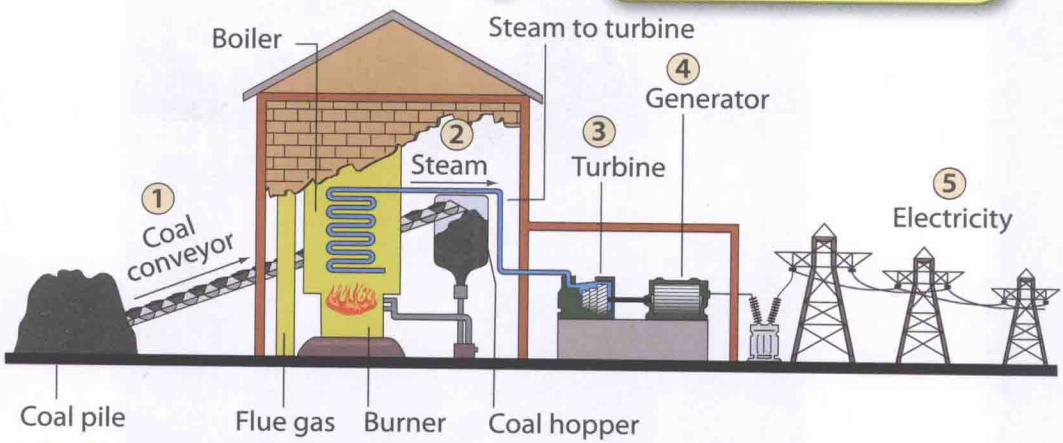
Here are some things you can do to help you read for information.

Features Diagrams

- A diagram is a drawing that explains information visually.
- A diagram shows how different parts of something relate to one another. A diagram might show how something works.
- Labels and captions help you understand what a diagram describes.

This **diagram** shows you how a coal power plant releases electricity.

Coal Energy Plant



1. Coal is burned to heat a large boiler of water. The boiling water gives off steam. 2. The steam goes through a pipe. 3. The steam causes the turbine to spin. 4. The spinning turbine causes the generator to spin. The spinning generator releases electricity. 5. Power lines deliver electricity to people.

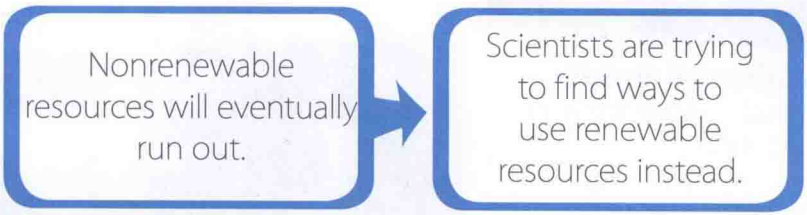
The **captions** and **labels** give you information that describes the pictures in the diagram.

Structures Problem and Solution

Science often deals with problems and solutions. A science text might describe a problem and tell you how it was solved.

- Look for signal words that indicate that a problem or solution is being described. The words *question* and *problem* signal that you might be reading a problem. The words *therefore*, *answer*, and *decide* signal that you might be reading a solution.
- Sometimes the text might describe a problem that hasn't been solved yet. The text might describe how people are trying to solve the problem.
- Some text passages that present a problem give more than one possible solution.
- Look at the problem presented on page 18. What signal words on this page show you that you're reading a problem?

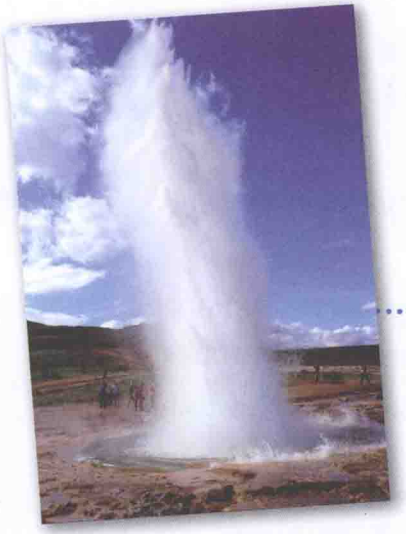
You can use a graphic organizer like the one below to help you organize problems and solutions.



Before You Read

Vocabulary Words to Know

disposal the process of getting rid of something



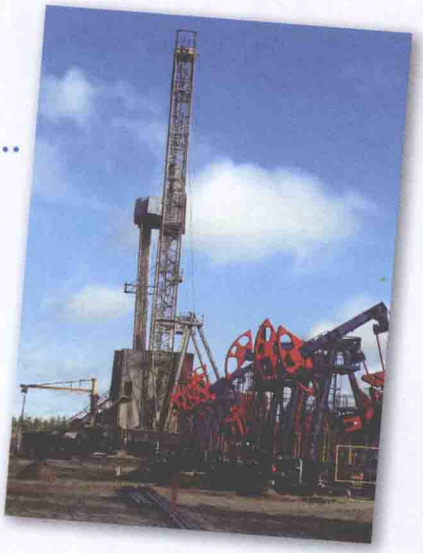
geothermal energy heat from below Earth's surface

Geothermal energy can come from geysers and hot springs.

impact a strong effect

Hurricanes can have a very strong **impact** on people's lives.

nonrenewable resource resource that cannot be replaced when it is used up

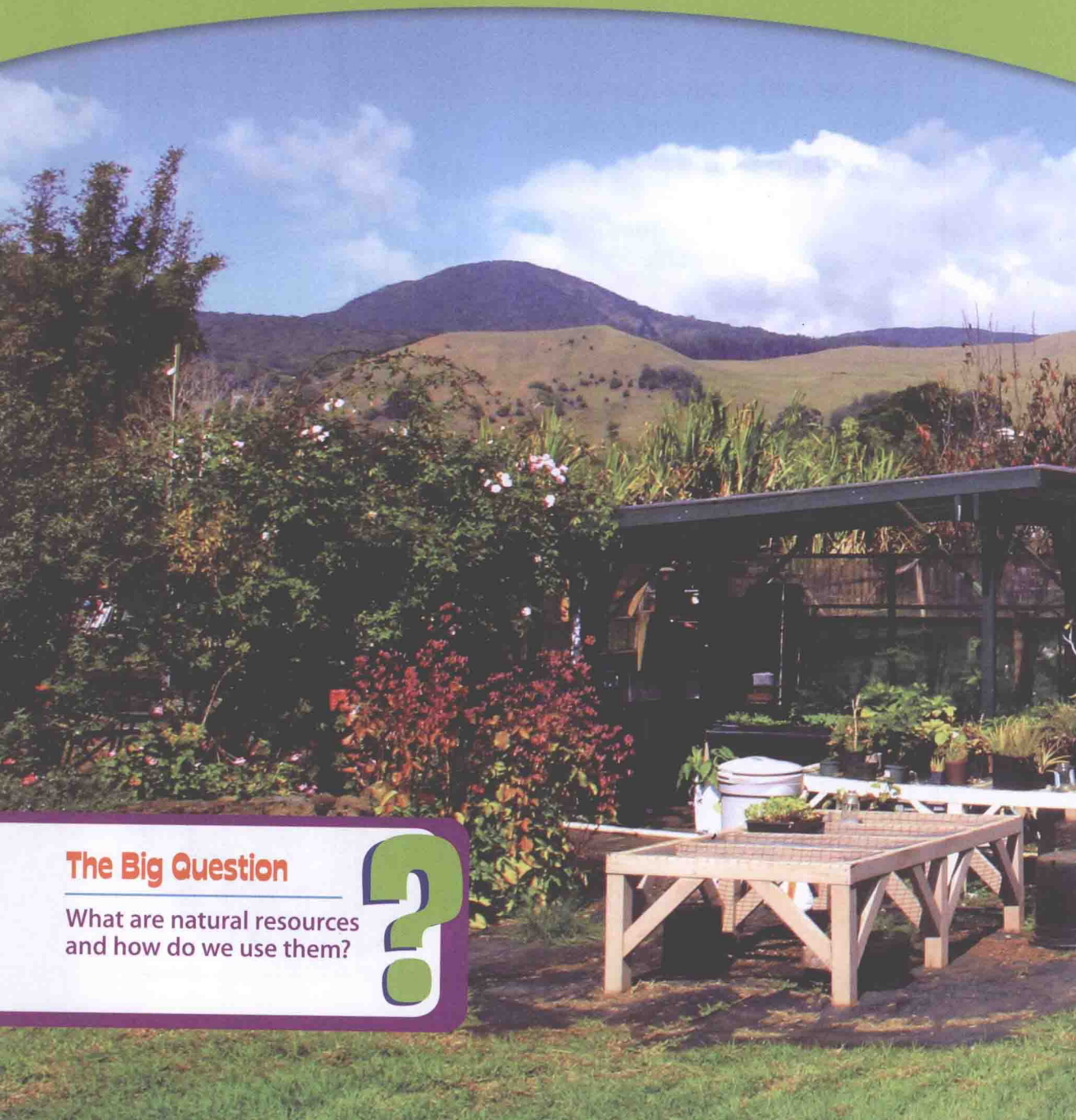


Oil is a **nonrenewable resource.**

nuclear energy energy produced by splitting the nuclei of certain elements

renewable resource resource that can be readily replaced and so can be used again and again

Earth's Resources



The Big Question

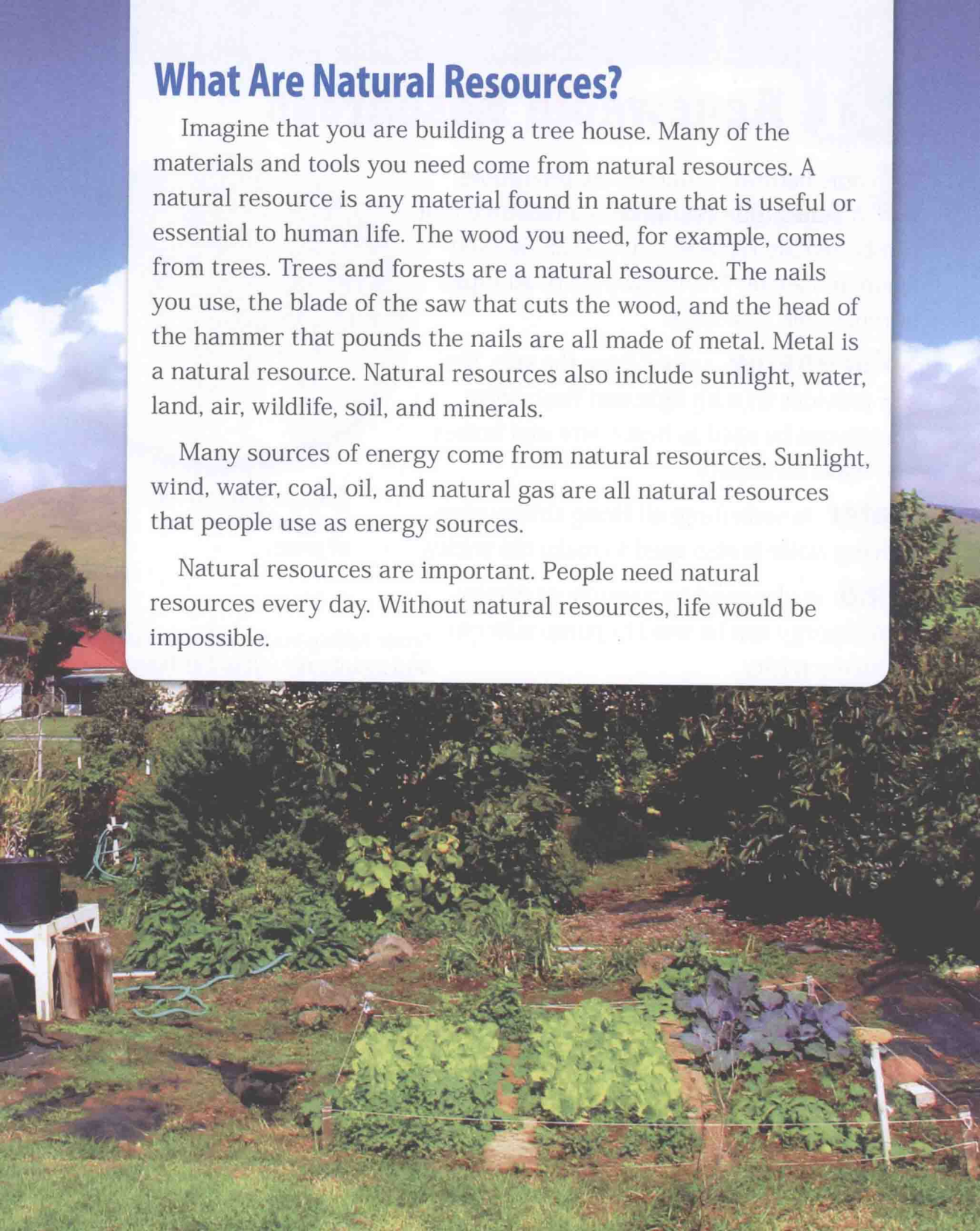
What are natural resources and how do we use them?

What Are Natural Resources?

Imagine that you are building a tree house. Many of the materials and tools you need come from natural resources. A natural resource is any material found in nature that is useful or essential to human life. The wood you need, for example, comes from trees. Trees and forests are a natural resource. The nails you use, the blade of the saw that cuts the wood, and the head of the hammer that pounds the nails are all made of metal. Metal is a natural resource. Natural resources also include sunlight, water, land, air, wildlife, soil, and minerals.

Many sources of energy come from natural resources. Sunlight, wind, water, coal, oil, and natural gas are all natural resources that people use as energy sources.

Natural resources are important. People need natural resources every day. Without natural resources, life would be impossible.



SECTION 1

Renewable Resources

Some natural resources are renewable. A **renewable resource** is a resource that can be readily replaced and so can be used again and again. The following are all types of renewable resources.

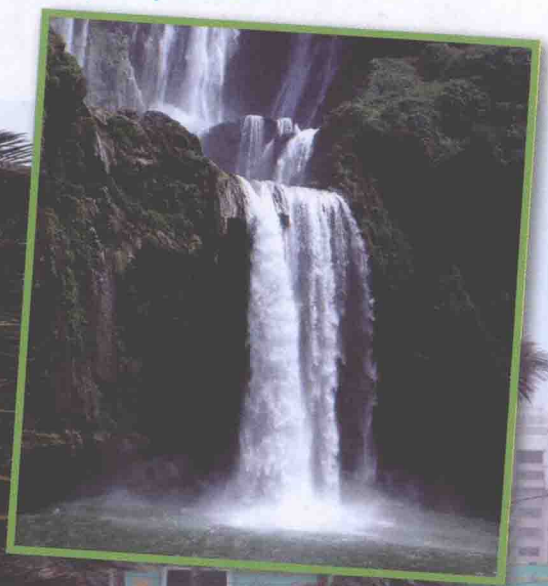
Solar energy comes from the sun. The sun provides us with light and heat. Solar energy can be used to heat water and homes and make electricity.

The sun will continue to shine for billions of years.

Water is something all living things need. Moving water is also used to make electricity.

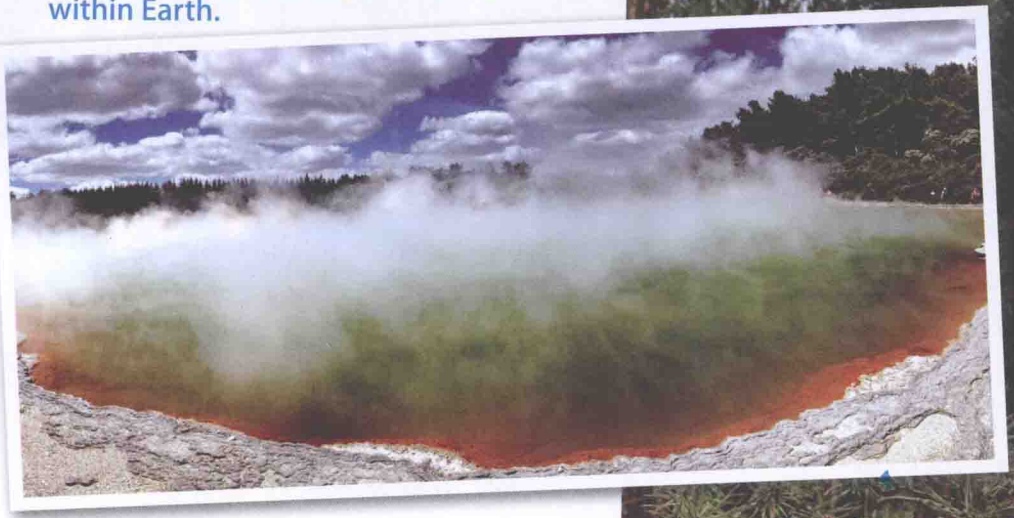
Wind is also used as a source of energy. Wind energy can be used to pump water or make electricity.

Some falling water will evaporate and eventually fall to Earth again as precipitation.



The stronger the wind blows, the more energy it can provide.

The steam coming from this geyser is evidence of heat rising from deep within Earth.



Forests contain plants and trees that are renewable natural resources. New trees can replace those that have been cut down.

Geothermal Energy comes from volcanoes, geysers, and hot springs that release heat energy from inside Earth. This heat energy is called **geothermal energy**. It can be used to heat homes and to make electricity.

How Do You Say It?

geothermal
/ˌdʒiːəʊˈθɜːml/

Trees in this forest have grown back after older trees were cut down.