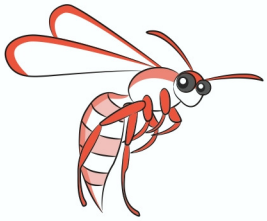


Timescale For Renewal – Student Research

The major resources on Earth are ***water, air, living things, rocks (including minerals and fossil fuels), soil and energy from the Sun***.

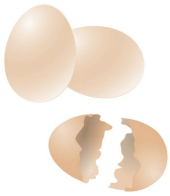
Living things This includes things that are alive or have once lived.

1. Cotton for clothes

How long does a cotton plant take to grow? _____

How many cotton plants does it take to grow enough cotton for a tee shirt? _____

Is this a renewable or non-renewable resource? _____



2. Eggs for breakfast

What is the length of a battery hen's life? _____

How many eggs does the hen lay in its life? _____

Is this a renewable or non-renewable resource? _____

Non-living things

1. **Water**

During September 2012 Perth had 30 mm of rain when the average rainfall would have been 290mm.

Is this a renewable or non-renewable resource? Explain your answer. _____

_____

To water my vegetable patch, I am using bore water from underground. This resource was created 1.2 million years ago when rainfall was higher.

Is this a renewable resource? _____

Timescale For Renewal – Student Research

2. Rocks

In Western Australia we depend on our minerals resource sector for most of our income.

Iron Ore Iron ore is found in the Pilbara in the "Banded Iron Formation". These deposits were formed when oxygen levels in the atmosphere were very low (less than 2%).

How old are these deposits? _____

How much oxygen is there in today's atmosphere? _____

Is iron ore a renewable resource? Explain your answer._____

_____

Gold Gold has always been a major contributor to our economy. Workers in the "Super Pit" in Kalgoorlie dig out this resource.

How old is the gold mineralisation? _____

If there is no more mineralisation, is gold a renewable or non renewable resource? _____

_____

3. **Energy from the Sun**

Our Sun is a giant thermo-nuclear reactor. Plants use its energy to produce food.
Is energy from the Sun renewable or non-renewable?

_____

Extension

Students may wish to visit
http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/ecologicalfootprint/calculators/personal/results.asp to estimate their own use of resources