

Name: _____

Date: _____

Natural Resources - Oil

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions from the reading.



Oil Refinery



Oil Derrick

Crude oil is a smelly, yellow-to-black liquid and is usually found in underground areas called reservoirs. Humans must drill deep into the earth to retrieve the oil. Above the hole, a structure called a 'derrick' is built to house the tools and pipes going into the well. When finished, the drilled well will bring a steady flow of oil to the surface. After crude oil is removed from the ground, it is sent to a refinery. At a refinery, different parts of the oil are separated into useable petroleum products that help us do many things like fuel our airplanes, cars, and trucks, and to heat our homes.

Much of the crude oil produced in the United States is produced offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. The top crude oil-producing states are: Texas, Alaska, California, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. The amount of crude oil produced in the United States has been getting smaller each year. However, the use of products made from crude oil has been growing, making it necessary to bring more oil from other countries.

Even though petroleum products make life easier – they cause problems for our environment like air and water pollution. Over the years, new technologies and laws have helped to reduce problems related to petroleum products.

1. **Where is oil found?** _____
2. **How is the oil retrieved from underground?** _____
3. **Name two uses of oil?** _____
4. **Once the oil is removed from the ground, where is it sent?** _____
5. **Where is much of the oil in the U.S. produced?** _____

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Underground

Drilling and oil Derrick

Gasoline and Heat

Oil Refinery

Gulf of Mexico