



Follow the sun's energy

When we use fossil fuels we are actually using the sun's energy from millions of years ago. Learn about this on the next page.

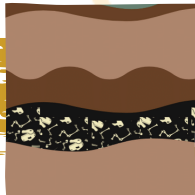
For this activity, try to spot everywhere that fossil fuels are used around you for one day. You may need to ask an adult where the electricity used in your home, school or shops comes from.

Make a list and discuss it with an adult. Why are the people you spot using fossil fuels? What could the alternative be?

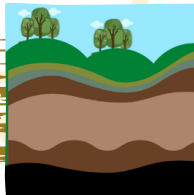




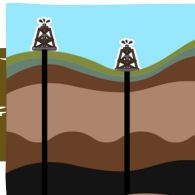
Millions of years ago, energy from the sun was soaked up by prehistoric plants, which fed creatures like the dinosaurs.



These animals and plants died, rotted and over time were covered by layers of earth.



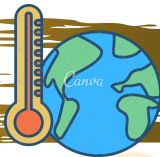
Millions of years later, the heat and pressure from these covering layers of earth have compressed the prehistoric animals and plant into oil, gas or coal. **These are fossil fuels**



These fossil fuels are extracted in modern times and converted into petrol or diesel for our vehicles or electricity for our homes, schools and businesses.



When we use fossil fuels to power our lives we are releasing the stored carbon from all those million of years ago.



This is a problem because when we release this stored carbon it makes our planet hotter, making it more difficult for many animals, plants and humans to survive.

