

# CREATE A COUNTRY!

## METALS, MINERALS AND ENERGY: RESEARCH PHASE

The process of creating a new and unique country has lasted several weeks and will be graded in parts as you complete the various steps toward finishing the project. You have recently finished determine what resources are located in your imaginary country based on the located of actual resources in nearby places on Earth. Now you are going to research how humans get these resources and use them.

1. You will be using time in the computer lab to research the various *natural resources* found in your country. You will determine how each of the resources located in your country are acquired. Are they mined? If so, is it underground mining or strip mining? Are they grown and harvested? Are they found on land or underwater? Are they pumped out of the Earth? Is the resource a solid, liquid or gas? You will be filling out your resource chart with this information.
2. Now that you understand how humans get this resource, you will be finding out how we use it. Using the internet to research facts about each natural resource, determine at least five common uses for each of the resources located in your country. Why do people want/need this stuff? List and describe the ways it's used on your chart.
3. You will find and print an image that represents each of your resources – this could be the resource in its natural state, as it's processed, or as a finished product. These images will be placed around the border of your chart, so don't make them too big! If you prefer (or need to) you can draw pictures that represent each *natural resource*.
4. You will determine the best way to generate electricity for the people (they aren't there yet, but soon will be!) of your country. Think of the resources you have available. Think of some of the various ways electricity can be made. Some examples might be burning fossil fuels, nuclear power plants, hydroelectric (water), solar, geo thermal or wind generators. Think about which source would be the best for your country and be ready to explain WHY. This will involve some research, but you will need to know how the people in your country will be able to turn on computers, refrigerators and lights!
5. Energy production is a great example of *human-environment interaction*. On the back of your natural resources chart, write a short essay explaining how you will make electricity in your country. Explain the resources you will use. Describe whether these resources are *renewable* or *non-renewable*. Detail possible environmental impact – either positive or negative – of your energy choices. Lastly, explain WHY you think this method of making energy is the best choice for your country.

The completed energy information for your country will be due on: \_\_\_\_\_

# NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENERGY ESSAY GRADING RUBRIC

(12/3/12)

**55 points total (5 points per element)**

1. You listed each natural resource found in your country in the “name” column. \_\_\_\_\_ / 5 points
2. You described the physical state (solid, liquid, gas) that each resource is found. \_\_\_\_\_ / 5 points
3. You described where each resource is found \_\_\_\_\_ / 5 points and  
how each resource is acquired by humans \_\_\_\_\_ / 5 points in the “where/how we get it” column.
4. You described five ways in which the resource is used by humans. \_\_\_\_\_ / 10 - 25 points (one for each way it is used. If you only had two resources, 10 points is your maximum score. If you had 5 resources, 25 is your maximum score)
5. You included a picture/drawing for each of your natural resources at the bottom. \_\_\_\_\_ / 5

**Now grade yourself...**

TOTAL SCORE \_\_\_\_\_ / 35-50 points

6. You wrote a paragraph describing how you would create electricity in your country. Give yourself points if you provided the following information:

You described the specific method you would use to create electricity. \_\_\_\_\_ /5

You explained if you were creating *renewable* or *nonrenewable* sources of energy. \_\_\_\_\_ /5

You described two (2) impacts your energy source will have on the environment. \_\_\_\_\_ /5

You explained why this form of energy is the best for your country. \_\_\_\_\_ /5

**Now grade yourself...**

TOTAL SCORE \_\_\_\_\_ / 20 points