

NATURAL RESOURCES MATCHING GAME

GOAL: The goal of this game is for guests to learn that everything we use comes from nature in the form of natural resources. The more we items consume, the more we deplete our natural resources. Therefore, it is important to reduce whenever possible so we can reduce our impact on the planet. They can learn this by matching manmade items to the natural resource it comes from.

MATERIALS:

1. Natural Resources Matching Game board ([download here](#))
2. Cutouts of manmade items containing glass, plastic, metal, and paper ([download here](#))

ANSWER KEY:

- **GLASS** items are made from **SAND**
 - Example glass items:
 - Window panes
 - Snapple bottles
 - Cups
- **PLASTIC** items are made from **OIL**
 - Example plastic items:
 - Grocery bags
 - Disposable silverwares
 - Yogurt cups
- **METAL** items are made from **MINERALS**
 - Example metal items:
 - Screws
 - Coins
 - Soda cans
- **PAPER** items are made from **TREES**
 - Example paper items:
 - Napkins
 - Milk cartons
 - Newspapers

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Ask your guests, “Do you know what a natural resource is?”
 - a. Whether they are able to define it or not, make sure to give them a concrete definition: “Natural resources are raw materials that we get from the earth such as oil, sand, minerals, and trees and use to make our everyday items.”
2. Hand a few of the item cutouts to your guest, preferably one made from each natural resources.
3. Explain to them how the game works, such as: “Our everyday items are made from natural resources. I want you to try and match these items to the natural resource they are made from.”
4. After they attempt to match the items to the natural resource, go over the answers with them.
 - a. Inform them that plastics come from oil, metals come from minerals, paper comes from trees, and glass comes from sand.
 - b. For items they correctly match, inform them that they are correct.
 - c. For all items they incorrectly matched, ask them, “Did you know (item) actually comes from (natural resource)?”
5. Inform guests of the importance of reducing and WHY conserving natural resources is important:
 - a. Example: Because all of our everyday items come from natural resources, it’s important that we:
 - i. Use less paper so we don’t have to cut down trees
 - ii. Use less metals so we don’t have to mine metal from the ground
 - iii. Use less glass so we don’t have to obtain more sand
 - iv. Use less plastics so we don’t have to extract oil from the ground!