Lesson Name: Natural Resources: Then and Now

Grade / Subject: 3rd Grade Social Studies

Standard / Objective: Standard 1, Objective 3, indicator b: Compare changes in the availability and use of natural resources over time.

Vocabulary:
*Natural Resources, nonrenewable, renewable, biomass, scarcity, consume

Materials:
- The Lorax by Dr. Seuss
- Anticipation Guide
- Natural Resources Power Point (PowerPoint 2003 version)
- Reader’s Theater
- Background and Major Points cards for each topic (Communication, Entertainment, Heating/Cooling/Lighting, In the Home, On the Job, and Transportation)

Additional Resources:
http://www.eia.doe.gov/kids/energyfacts/index.html
http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/state/?featureclicked=3&
  Use website to identify natural resources in Utah.

Books:
The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein
And Still the Turtle Watched by Sheila MacGill-Callahan
Old Time Toys by Bobbie Kalman & David Schimpky
When I was Young in the Mountains by Cynthia Rylant
Winter Days in the Big Woods by Laura Ingalls Wilder
Energy Crisis: The Future of Fossil Fuels by Daniel R. Faust

Harcourt School Publishers (schools got for science)
- Energy
- The Flow of Energy
- Wind Energy
- Using Resources
- Natural Resources
- Conserving Resources

Renewable Energy Song
Day 1

Anticipation Guide

Read: *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss

- Identify consequences of the use of natural resources
- Comprehension strategy: Determining Importance
- Persuasive argument: Should we continue cutting down trees? (Oncer-Ler versus the Lorax).

Things to think about: After reading the book, students decide which position they would support: either continuing to cut down the trees or ceasing to cut down the trees. Discuss as a class some of the important things trees provide including lumber for our houses and school; apples, oranges, and other fruits; the paper we write with; the many jobs in the lumber industry; oxygen, etc. Then discuss some of the consequences of cutting down the trees, including the loss of forests and animal habitats. You could also discuss what would happen if we stopped cutting down trees altogether, including loss of jobs, shortage of paper, shortage of building supplies, shortage of fruit, etc.

Day 2-3

Natural Resources Power Point

*On and On or Gone?* (Energy Fun)

(Did not cover uranium or geothermal energy in power point.)

Make an eight page book. Label each page with different renewable or nonrenewable resource. Write notes about each one.

Day 4

How have things changed over time?

Split class and choral read “The Dark Ages” (reader’s theater)

Divide into groups and create a poster with the theme "Then and Now" for individual categories.