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Mr. Schmidt Science 8

natural resource nonrenewable resource renewable resource sustainable yield

aggregate bedrock desertification ore

tailings nitrogen-fixing bacteria pollutant desalination

hydrogen bond

1. Nonrenewable resource – resource that exists in Earth’s crust in a fixed amount and can be replaced only by geologic, physical, or chemical processes, that takes hundreds of millions of years.
2. Renewable resource – natural resource, such as fresh air and most groundwater, that can be replaced by nature in a short period of time.
3. Natural resource – resources provided by Earth, including air, water, land, all living organisms, nutrients, rocks, and minerals.
4. Aggregate – mixture of sand, gravel, and crushed stone that accumulates naturally; found in floodplains, alluvial fans, or glacial deposits.
5. Desertification – process by which productive land becomes desert; in arid areas can occur through the loss of topsoil.
6. Bedrock – unweathered, solid parent rock that can consist of limestone, marble, granite, or other quarried rock.
7. Hydrogen bond – forms when the positive ends of some water molecules are attracted to the negative ends of other water molecules; cause water’s surface to contract and allow water to adhere to and coat a solid.
8. Pollutant – substance that enters Earth’s geochemical cycles and can harm the health of living things or adversely affect their activities.
9. Desalination – process that removes salt from seawater in order to provide freshwater.
10. Tailings – material left after mineral ore has been extracted from parent rock; can release harmful chemicals into groundwater or surface water.
11. Sustainable yield – replacement of renewable resources at the same rate at which they are consumed.
12. Nitrogen-fixing bacteria – bacteria found in water or soil; can grow on the roots of some plants, capture nitrogen gas, and change into a form that plants use to build proteins.
13. Ore – mineral that contains a valuable substance that can be mined at a profit.