



Explore the benefits and problems of renewable energy sources

Cut out the facts below, identify which type of energy they are describing, and stick them into the relevant spaces in the grid provided on the next page. Add any missing pros or cons about these different types of energy in the empty spaces.

Only certain parts of the world have the right kind of rocks needed near the surface to produce enough thermal energy.

It's a very clean fuel because it uses what's already there. It's cheap and renewable, as the Earth's core is always hot.

It's very expensive to set up and run. It's non-renewable. It can produce very dangerous radioactive substances that are very difficult to get rid of and are potentially a huge threat to human health unless properly stored for a long time. Waste can be used to produce nuclear weapons.

Non-renewable, with the exception of coal, most fossil fuels are running out fast (and coal will too eventually). They release a lot of carbon dioxide when burned, which contributes to climate change.

It's a clean and renewable energy source. Dams can prevent downstream areas from flooding.

It's relatively cheap and we already have all the technology needed to extract it. There are still large reserves of coal left.

There are limited suitable sites, not always where the energy is needed. Takes up huge amounts of space, often in beautiful mountain countryside, which then gets destroyed. Blocks flow of rivers, floods large areas, can displace large numbers of people and wildlife.

Produces no climate-changing harmful gases. Compared to coal and gas, there are adequate supplies for the medium term.



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Energy Source	Disadvantages	Advantages
BIOMASS		
NUCLEAR		
FOSSIL FUELS		
GEOTHERMAL		
HYDROELECTRIC		



Explore the benefits and problems of renewable energy sources

Discuss the benefits and potential problems for the renewable energy sources pictured below.



Stretch:
Identify the benefits and potential problems for the wider society for a range of renewable energy sources.



Challenge:
Identify the benefits and potential problems for a range of renewable energy sources.


