

Impact on the environment. Pg-76-77

Also refer to pages 90-93

- ✚ The production and use of materials can have an impact on the environment.
- ✚ Raw materials such as **metal ores** and **fuels (oil, gas and coal)** are needed to make other materials such as **metals, plastic and construction materials**.
- ✚ Raw materials are usually found in their **natural** environments.
- ✚ They are collected by mining or drilling for them that can damage the environment.
- ✚ The manufacture, use and **disposal** of materials may also produce waste and **pollution**. This can lead to a more environmental damage.

Word bank

Natural materials: are those taken from the environment.

Synthetic materials: are those that are made in factories and are not natural.

The environmental impact of mining precious metals.

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1. What is mining?
2. What is the impact of the mining process on the environment?

The environmental impact of plastic.

1. Why are plastic bags useful to us?
2. If they are so useful, how can they have a negative impact on the environment?

Non recycled waste is dumped in landfills. Some plastic that are dumped in landfills can take up to **1000 years** to decompose. When they do decompose they release harmful chemicals into the soil.

3. What can you do?

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The environmental impact of fossil fuels.

COAL	OIL	NATURAL GAS
<i>Used to generate electricity. Needs to be mined from underground.</i>	<i>Used to make petrol and diesel. Found in the ground between layers of rock. Have to drill an "Oil well" and pump it to the surface. Transported in pipelines under the sea from oil-rigs or in ocean tankers.</i>	<i>Energy sources for heating and cooking as well as for vehicles and to generate electricity in some countries.</i>

4. What are the negative impacts these fuels have on the environment?