

Hello Middle School Teachers!

We want to alert you to this national competition for students aged 10 - 14. It is sponsored by the Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences (a non-profit group made up of Canadian Earth Science organizations) with financial support from ENCANA, a Canadian natural gas company. This contest is open to Canadian students in two age groups: 10-12 year olds and 13-14 year olds.

THE CONTEST - students pick an object, identify the non-renewable earth resources needed to make the object and tell us **WHERE** on Earth those resources come from. Students can use prose, poetry, a song, a play, a poster or a multi-media presentation to tell the story.

THE PRIZES – In addition to numerous regional prizes of \$200 each there are national prizes and school prizes. The top entries receive \$750 - \$1000. **ALL** entries in the **WHERE** Challenge go into random draw for an iPod nano. Entries received **before February 1, 2010** go into Early Bird draw for a second iPod nano!

THE TIMELINE - the contest closes **March 1, 2010** and that is why we have sent you this letter and the flyer.

HOW TO ENTER - go to this website to get all the details, the entry form and links to view the entries from past winners: <http://www.earthsciencescanada.com/where/>

Good Luck!

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WHAT on Earth is in your stuff?
WHERE on Earth does it come from?

<http://www.earthsciencescanada.com/where/>

About the Contest

Welcome to the **WHERE Challenge!** The Challenge is a national contest endorsed by the Canadian Earth sciences community that asks students aged 10 - 14 years to discover the answers to these questions: What on Earth is in your stuff and WHERE on Earth does it come from? There are thousands of dollars in regional and national prizes to be won and you can enter as a group, an individual or a school. All you have to do is use your imagination and dig up some interesting facts about your stuff.

Pick a favourite object in your home, school or playground, identify one or more **non-renewable Earth resources*** needed to make that object and tell us WHERE on Earth those resources come from. You may be surprised by how many come from Canada. Your story can be told through an essay, a poem, a song or a play, a painting or a poster, an audio, video or multimedia presentation or anything else you can dream up. The more original, the better.

Winning entries may be used as promotional tools to demonstrate how non-renewable Earth resources are essential to our everyday lives. So think hard, dream big and good luck!

***Non-renewable Earth resources** are substances which occur naturally within the Earth and must be mined, quarried or pumped out from underground. These resources are found in limited quantities and are consumed more quickly than natural processes can replace them.

Some examples of non-renewable Earth resources include:

- Fossil fuels such as petroleum and natural gas (used to make plastic)
- Minerals such as iron ore (used to make steel)
- Rocks such as limestone (used to make cement)
- Minerals such as quartz sand (used to make glass).

Many non-renewable resources are recyclable (e.g. glass and aluminum pop cans) but only a small proportion of what is produced is recycled.

The following are NOT considered non-renewable Earth resources:

- Trees and plants (used to make lumber, fabric and paper)
- Water
- Food: fruit and cereals; meat from animals
- Geothermal energy
- Wind energy



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