

Product Life Cycle Research

What to do

A product life cycle tells us about the materials and energy used to make, use, and dispose of the product. When we buy and use products, looking at the life cycle helps us to make good choices that help to protect and preserve our environment.

- 1** Complete the **Product Life Cycle Research Plan**.
- 2** Research your product's life cycle and find out the answers to the following questions:
 - a) What rocks, minerals, or metals are used to make the product?
 - b) How is the product made?
 - c) What environmental impacts may have occurred during the manufacturing of the product?
 - d) Who benefits from the use of the product, and how do they use it?
 - e) What choices are there for what happens to the product at the end of its life?
- 3** Choose one rock or mineral that is used to make your product. Research your choice and find out the answers to the following questions:
 - a) What are its composition and characteristics?
 - b) Where is it mined?
 - c) How is it extracted or processed?
 - d) Are there any environmental impacts during the mining and extraction process?
 - e) How is it used in the product?

Record your research.
- 4** Publish your research. Include in your presentation what choices consumers like you could make to reduce the environmental impact of your product. Use the **Publication Checklist**.
- 5** Prepare a short talk on your product's life cycle, using your published research to share with friends and family.

Product Life Cycle Research

1. Product Life Cycle Research Plan

a) What products are made from rocks or minerals?

b) Which minerals or rocks are used in these products?

c) What type of presentation will you use to publish your research?

d) What is the Topic for your research?

e) What is the Purpose of your research?

f) Who is the Audience for your published research?

g) What must be included in your presentation?

h) Where will you look for information? Try to have a variety of resources.

2. Research your product's life cycle and find out the answers to the following questions:

a) What rocks, minerals, or metals are used to make the product?

b) How is the product made?

c) What environmental impacts may have occurred during the manufacturing of the product?

d) Who benefits from the use of the product, and how do they use it?

e) What choices are there for what happens to the product at the end of its life?

3. Choose one rock or mineral that is used to make your product. Research your choice and find out the answers to the following questions:

a) What are its composition and characteristics?

b) Where is it mined?

c) How is it extracted or processed?

d) Are there any environmental impacts during the mining and extraction process?

e) How is the rock or mineral used in the product?

4. Publication Check List

Language

My writing or printing is clear and easy to read.

I have checked the spelling.

I have used scientific vocabulary.

Illustrations

I have used pictures, graphs, or maps.

The illustrations are clearly labelled.

Publishing and Design

I have used headings and subheadings.

I have suitably used different colours.

I have suitably used different font sizes and styles.

The content of my publication is organized into sequence.

The layout of my publication is clear and organized.

Content

I have answered all the questions about my product.

I have answered all questions about one mineral or rock used in my product.

I have explained what I as a consumer could do to reduce the environmental impact.

Resources

These are the resources I have used:
