# $\sim \diamond$ The 10 energy sources $\diamond$

# RENEWABLE

Fuels that can be easily made or replenished; we can never use up renewable fuels.



#### **BIOMASS**

Anything that is alive, or anything that was alive a short time ago is called biomass. Trees, crops, garbage, and animal waste are all biomass. Most of the biomass we use for energy today is wood.

# NONRENEWABLE

Fuels that cannot be easily made or replenished; we can use up nonrenewable fuels.



## COAL

Coal was formed millions to hundreds of millions of years ago from plants. Coal is often shiny, black rock. Coal is a fossil fuel\* that we burn for energy.



#### **GEOTHERMAL**

Geothermal energy is heat from inside the earth. The inside of the earth is very hot. Sometimes this heat comes near the surface. We can use this heat to warm our houses. We can generate electricity with it.



# NATURAL GAS

Natural gas is a mixture of gases you can't see, smell, or taste. We often add an odor to it so we can smell it. It has a lot of energy in it. You can burn it to make heat. Natural gas is a fossil fuel.\*



## HYDROPOWER

Hydropower is energy created by moving water. Moving water has a lot of energy. We use that energy to generate electricity.



## PETROLEUM

Petroleum is a liquid that is found underground. Sometimes we call it oil. Oil can be as thick and black as tar or as thin as water. Petroleum is a fossil fuel\* that has a lot of energy we release when we burn it.



#### SOLAR

The sun provides lots of energy to the earth. We call it solar energy. It travels from the sun to the earth in rays. The energy from the sun makes rain fall, wind blow, and plants grow.



## PROPANE

Propane is the gas we use to fuel our backyard grills and operate machines in warehouses. You cannot see it, smell it, or taste it, but you can burn it to produce heat energy. Propane is fossil fuel.\*



WIND Wind is moving air. We can use the energy in wind to do work.



#### URANIUM

Uranium is a mineral found in rocks in the ground. We split uranium atoms to release energy in nuclear power plants.

**\*FOSSIL FUEL:** Formed millions to hundreds of millions of years ago from the remains of living organisms. The plants and animals received their energy when they were alive from the sun. It was stored in them when they died.