

TEACHING NOTES

Series: **Energy Essentials**

Title: **Fossil Fuel**

This book tells you all about fossil fuels, including coal, oil, and natural gas. It tells you amazing things about how they were made and how we can use them in our everyday lives. But it also explains the problems that the use of fossil fuel can cause and how we need to find other ways of fueling our world - and soon!



Text Structure

SEQUENCE

Read page 27 with students. Discuss that because this text explains how natural gas is transported, it makes sense that the author uses sequence as a way to organize part of the text. Because the transportation of natural gas is a pattern, and patterns generally follow a predictable sequence of events, readers can expect to learn about the steps of transporting natural gas. Encourage students to pay attention to these steps as they read the section.



Text Feature

INDEX

Have students turn to the index on page 48, and discuss how it provides an alphabetical listing of important topics and terms contained in the text. Model how the index can be used to locate where specific information can be found in the text. For example, if a student were doing a report on petroleum, he or she could pick up this book and flip to the index to quickly find out that the text would be a resource and that the information is located on pages 18 - 19.



Comprehension Strategy

DETERMINING IMPORTANCE

Graphic Organizer

Remind students that nonfiction books often contain many new facts, and readers need to identify which ideas are more important than others. Read page 5 with students and ask them what the author's main idea or message is. Record their answers on the board. Have students revisit the text and identify the main ideas in other sections of the book. Students should use the graphic organizer to record and illustrate these main ideas.

**Word Study****PREFIX 'PHOTO-'**

Have students locate the word photosynthesis on page 6. Ask students:

"What is the base word?"

"What prefix has been added to the base word?"

"What does this word mean?"

Explain that the prefix 'photo-' means 'having to do with light' . Ask students to name other examples of words that are formed by adding the prefix 'photo-'. Record their examples on the board and discuss how the prefix changes the meaning of the base word.

**Writing and Responding****POST CARD**

Have students write a postcard to a friend that describes what they saw and learned during their textual visit to the oil refinery. Encourage students to use depth and specificity in their descriptions by using new vocabulary words.

Main Idea and Details

