

INTRODUCING NATURAL RESOURCES

Over the many millennia that the human race has inhabited our planet, a use has been found for almost everything that is to be found on it. However, since the Industrial Revolution, many of the resources that we have come to rely on are being depleted, some at an alarming rate. Misuse of other resources, such as fossil fuels, is causing such damage to the environment that measures are being taken at an international level to restrict their use

Introducing Natural Resources explains how the natural resources of the Earth originated Graham Park outlines the astronomical and geological evolution of the planet in the early period of its existence. The genesis, mode of occurrence, and abundance of the various non-renewable mineral resources are described, together with the methods of extraction, extent of reserves, and any environmental problems. The use of renewable resources, such as solar energy, air, and water, are then discussed, together with plant and animal life, these are renewable resources only if properly managed. The book concludes with a summary of future issues in resource management.

Copiously illustrated, this book is intended for those whose interest in natural resources has been stimulated, perhaps by media coverage of declining resources or environmental pollution, and who want to better understand the issues involved.

Technical terms are kept to a minimum and are explained in a glossary.

Graham Park, Emeritus Professor of Tectonic Geology at the University of Keele, is a successful author of popular introductory earth science books including *Introducing Geology* in this series.

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Contents

List of illustrations	vi
Sourced illustrations	viii
Preface	ix
Acknowledgements	x
1 Introduction	1
2 Origin and early history of the Earth	3
3 Redistribution and concentration of mineral resources	11
4 Types of ore deposit	18
5 Metallic mineral resources I	23
6 Metallic mineral resources II	40
7 Resources of non-metallic elements	52
8 Rocks as an economic resource	65
9 Non-renewable energy resources	72
10 Atmosphere, oceans, and biosphere	81
11 Renewable energy resources	90
12 Protecting the Planet	100
Glossary	106
Appendix	115
Selected further reading	117