Name: _____ Date: _____

Iceland Heats Homes From the Ground

Circle group

Iceland is a cold island in the North Atlantic Ocean. Still, many homes stay warm all winter. The secret is under the ground. Iceland sits where two pieces of the Earth's crust meet and move apart. So hot rock lies close to the top of the ground.

Rain and melted snow soak into the ground. The hot rock warms the water. In some places the hot water bubbles up as a hot spring. In other places, workers drill deep wells. Pipes carry the hot water to homes, schools, and offices. It flows through radiators to warm each room.

This is called geothermal energy. The word comes from words for "earth" and "heat." Nothing is burned, so there is much less smoke.

Iceland uses warm water for fun, too. Towns have outdoor pools. People swim even when snow falls.

Questions

1. Where does Iceland get heat for many homes?

_____

_____

2. Why is hot rock close to the top of the ground?

_____

_____

3. How does hot water get to a house?

_____

_____

4. What does geothermal mean?

_____

_____

5. Why is there less smoke with geothermal energy?

_____

_____

6. What shows that Iceland uses warm water for fun?

_____

_____

Words to know

crust: the hard outer layer of the Earth
geothermal: having to do with heat from inside the Earth
radiator: a metal device that gives off heat to warm a room
drill: to make a deep hole with a tool

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Iceland Heats Homes From the Ground

Triangle group

Iceland is a cold island in the North Atlantic Ocean, yet many of its homes stay cozy all winter. The secret lies under the ground. Iceland sits on a spot where two great pieces of the Earth's crust meet and slowly move apart. Because of this, hot rock lies close to the surface in many places.

Rain and melted snow soak down into the ground, where the hot rock warms the water. In some places the heated water bubbles up as a hot spring. In others, workers drill deep wells to reach it. Pipes then carry the hot water across town to houses, schools, and offices. The water flows through radiators to warm each room, and it can also keep sidewalks free of ice.

This kind of energy is called geothermal energy. The word comes from two old words meaning "earth" and "heat." It does not need coal or oil to be burned, so it makes much less smoke than many other heat sources.

Iceland also uses its warm water for fun. Towns have outdoor swimming pools, and people soak in them even when snow falls around them. The island turns a surprising feature of its land into comfort for everyone.

Questions

1. Where does Iceland get the heat for many of its homes?

_____

_____

2. Why is hot rock close to the surface in Iceland?

_____

_____

3. How does the water get from the ground to a house?

_____

_____

4. What does geothermal mean?

_____

_____

5. Why does geothermal energy make less smoke than coal or oil?

_____

_____

6. What detail shows that Iceland also uses warm water for fun?

_____

_____

Words to know

crust: the hard outer layer of the Earth
geothermal: having to do with heat from inside the Earth
radiator: a metal device that gives off heat to warm a room
drill: to make a deep hole with a tool
surface: the outside or top of something

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Iceland Heats Homes From the Ground

Square group

Iceland is a cold island in the North Atlantic Ocean, yet many of its homes remain comfortably warm throughout the winter. The explanation lies beneath the ground. Iceland sits on a spot where two enormous pieces of the Earth's crust meet and slowly drift apart, which means that hot rock lies close to the surface in many places.

Rain and melted snow soak down into the ground, where the hot rock heats the water. In some places the warmed water bubbles up as a natural hot spring. In others, workers drill deep wells in order to reach it. Pipes then carry the hot water across town to houses, schools, and offices, where it flows through radiators to warm each room. It can even keep sidewalks free of ice.

This kind of power is called geothermal energy, a term formed from two ancient words meaning "earth" and "heat." Because nothing has to be burned to produce it, it creates far less smoke than many other sources of heat.

Iceland also uses its warm water for recreation. Towns have outdoor swimming pools, and people soak in them even while snow falls around them. The island has turned a surprising feature of its land into comfort for everyone.

Questions

1. Where does Iceland obtain the heat for many of its homes?

_____

_____

2. Why does hot rock lie close to the surface in Iceland?

_____

_____

3. How does the hot water travel from the ground to a house?

_____

_____

4. What does the word geothermal mean?

_____

_____

5. Why does geothermal energy create less smoke than coal or oil?

_____

_____

6. Which detail shows that Iceland also uses warm water for recreation?

_____

_____

Words to know

crust: the hard outer layer of the Earth
geothermal: having to do with heat from inside the Earth
radiator: a metal device that gives off heat to warm a room
drill: to make a deep hole with a tool
surface: the outside or top of something

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Iceland Heats Homes From the Ground

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Iceland Heats Homes From the Ground

Easier · 138 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.1

1. From hot rock and hot water under the ground.
2. Iceland sits where two pieces of crust meet and move apart.
3. Workers drill wells, and pipes carry it to buildings.
4. It comes from words for earth and heat.
5. Nothing is burned to make the heat.
6. People swim in outdoor pools in the snow.

Triangle: Iceland Heats Homes From the Ground

This passage · 201 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.7

1. From hot rock and hot water under the ground.
2. The island sits where two pieces of the Earth's crust meet and move apart.
3. Workers drill wells, and pipes carry the hot water to buildings.
4. It comes from words meaning earth and heat.
5. Nothing has to be burned to make the heat.
6. People swim in outdoor pools even when snow is falling.

Square: Iceland Heats Homes From the Ground

Harder · 205 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 7.4

1. From hot rock and hot water beneath the ground.
2. The island sits where two pieces of the Earth's crust meet and drift apart.
3. Workers drill wells, and pipes carry the hot water to buildings.
4. It is formed from ancient words meaning earth and heat.
5. Nothing has to be burned to produce the heat.
6. People soak in outdoor pools even while snow falls.