

Name _____

Renewable vs. Nonrenewable Energy Answer Key

Category	Renewable Energy	Nonrenewable Energy	Similarities
Definition	Energy sources that are naturally replaced in a short time.	Energy sources that take millions of years to form and can run out.	Both are used to produce energy.
Examples	Solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal, biomass	Coal, oil, natural gas, nuclear fuels	Both can power homes, schools, and industries.
Availability	Generally unlimited as long as natural cycles continue.	Limited and will eventually run out if overused.	Both can be transformed into electricity.
Environmental Impact	Produce little or no pollution; cleaner for the Earth.	Produce greenhouse gases and pollution when burned.	Both require technology to capture and use energy.

Reflection (Sample Answer)

Renewable energy is better for the future because it does not run out, creates less pollution, and helps slow climate change. Nonrenewable energy may be useful now, but it harms the environment and will eventually disappear. Using renewables ensures we have sustainable energy for future generations.