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Activities

Capturing the Wind

Name: _____ Date: _____

Wind is readily available if you know where and when to find it. This makes wind power an attractive energy choice. Some states are already putting wind to work big time. In this Planet Diary activity, you'll explore how wind power is harnessed to get energy.

Directions

- How can wind energy generate electricity? Check out this wind power animation. Watch the animation. Click on the turbine diagram to learn how it works. Then answer Workspace questions 1 and 2.
- People have long taken advantage of wind energy. Read this wind energy story. Look at the windmill pictures and diagram as you read the story. Answer questions 3 through 6.

Workspace

1. Describe how wind energy generates electricity.

2. List three advantages of using wind power as an alternative energy source.

3. How have farmers used wind energy?

4. How is wind energy used in Holland?

5. In California, when do wind turbines produce the most electricity? Explain why.

6. How strong do winds need to be to drive wind turbines?

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