



---

## curriculum links

### Grade 5:

- ◆ Understanding Earth and Space Systems:  
*Conservation of Energy and Resources*



## overview

At this activity centre, students will use a model to trace the path of household wastes from their source to their place of disposal.

## grade 5 expectations

### Science and Technology

#### Understanding Earth and Space Systems: Conservation of Energy and Resources

##### Overall Expectations

- ◆ analyse the immediate and long-term effects of energy and resource use on society and the environment, and evaluate options for conserving energy and resources;
- ◆ investigate energy transformation and conservation;
- ◆ demonstrate an understanding of the various forms and sources of energy and the ways in which energy can be transformed and conserved.

##### Specific Expectations

##### *Relating Science and Technology to Society and the Environment*

- ◆ analyse the long-term impacts on society and the environment of human uses of energy and natural resources, and suggest ways to reduce these impacts;
- ◆ evaluate the effects of various technologies on energy consumption, and propose ways in which individuals can improve energy conservation.



---

# Septic Sights

---



## *Developing Investigation and Communication Skills*

- use scientific inquiry/research skills to investigate issues related to energy and resource conservation;
- use appropriate science and technology vocabulary, including *energy, heat, light, sounds, electrical, mechanical, and chemical*, in oral communication.

## *Understanding Basic Concepts*

- identify renewable and non-renewable sources of energy.

## key terms

**Contaminant** - A substance introduced into the air, water, or soil that reduces its usefulness to humans and other organisms in nature (e.g. making water impure and unfit for consumption or use).

**Groundwater** - Water found in spaces between soils particles underground.

**Infiltration** - The process by which water seeps into the ground to feed plant roots and ground water supplies. Once water infiltrates the ground it begins to be filtered by soils and plants before entering a watercourse.

**Septic System** - A septic system is a system used in rural areas for treating wastewater by filtering it through certain types of gravel and earth materials that are built up in layers underneath the ground.

**Septic Tank** - A temporary, watertight holding tank for waste, often buried near the house.

**Sludge** - Solid matter that settles to the bottom of septic tanks; must be disposed of by bacterial digestion or other methods or pumped out for land disposal or incineration.

