Communities and Resources

Natural Resources
Air, water, and soil are parts of the environment. Plants and all other living things are parts of the environment, too. Things in the environment that are useful to people are called natural resources. People use natural resources and other resources to make goods. Human resources are the knowledge, skills, and hard work people bring to their jobs. Capital resources are things people use to make goods or provide services.

Regions and Resources
People use different resources depending on where they live. Communities near waterways, such as New York City, may use these resources to move goods. People in a region that has a lot of sunshine and good soil may use these natural resources to grow crops they can sell. Using too much of a natural resource may cause it to run out. Reusing and recycling are good ways to conserve, or save, natural resources.

Find and underline a form of each vocabulary word or term.

**environment** noun, the water, soil, air, and living things around you

**natural resources** noun, things found in nature that are useful to people

**human resources** noun, the skills, knowledge, and hard work that people bring to their jobs

**capital resources** noun, things used by people to make goods or provide services

**region** noun, an area that shares one or more features

What are capital resources for? Circle the sentence that tells the answer.

What might happen if people use too much of a natural resource? Highlight the sentence that tells the answer.

**SKILL** Reading Charts
What are two natural resources? Circle the answers.