

Your Job as Environmental Consultant

Topic: Mining

Background Information:

Mining companies are continually improving their environmental management of the areas they mine. Alcoa has a dedicated environmental team and has won international awards for its rehabilitation work.

There are many different methods used for the different types of mining. There are also different methods used for rehabilitation, these are dependent on the location and style of mining.

What You Need To Do:

Imagine you have been hired by a mining company to come up with further things they can do to rehabilitate an area after it has been mined.

Focus Questions:

- What does the company already do in regards to rehabilitation? (Many companies have this information on their website.)
- What percentage of fauna and flora is returned to the area?
- What environmental aspects need to be considered? Think about flora, fauna, water quality, air quality. (Some of these are managed DURING the mining process, rather than after).

Extension/Alternatives:

- Develop a PowerPoint presentation which outlines your recommendations, and present it to your class
- Choose an area of your school grounds which needs rehabilitation. As a group or class, discuss your goals for this area and what you will do to achieve these goals. You may like to visit www.growusahome.org.au to find out what plants and animals are native to your area. Find out about soils you need and what plants should be in the area. When you have rehabilitated your area, continue to look after it.

Curriculum Links:

English: Writing, Reading, Listening and Speaking

Society and Environment: Investigation, Communication & Participation, Place and Space, Active Citizenship

Values

5. Environmental Responsibility