alcoa discover society and environment

So What Do You Know About Refining Bauxite

Topic: Refining

Before you embark on any unit of work, it's good to find out what you already know before thinking about what you need to know. In your class or group, brainstorm everything you already know about rehabilitation. Write this up on a big chart or board.

Now, in pairs, write up a list of questions about refining. You may choose to start with simple questions before going on to the more analytical and controversial. Leave a lot of blank space at the bottom of your questions page. Often, the more you read about a particular topic, the more questions you have! Continue to create more questions as you go.

Write a list of all the ways you can find answers to your questions. Check out the resource list on www.alcoa.com.au which will help you to get started.

You Will Need

- Access to the internet or school library

What You Need to Do

- Give a written or oral explanation of the following terminology:
  a) process
  b) refinery
  c) residue

Extension/ Alternative

As a class, create a glossary that might include the following words and phrases:

- digestion
- clarification
- precipitation
- calcination

ALCOA

australia's aluminium

- seed
- caustic
- mud thickeners
- sand traps
- semi-autogenous grinding mills (SAG mills)
- desilication
- ore
- heat exchange

You might like to create your class glossary as a chart for your classroom. That way you can refer to it easily.

Curriculum Links

English: Writing, Reading, Listening and Speaking
Society & Environment: Investigation, Communication & Participation, Place and Space, Resources
Science: Natural and Processed Materials, Energy and Change