

Birdseed Mining: Distribution of Natural Resources

Allergy Alert: Birdseed sometimes contains nuts. Please let your teacher know if you have a nut allergy.

Goal: Mine resources to make as much money as possible.

Materials needed:

- Tray with seed mixture
- Mining Tool (tweezers)

Procedures ROUND 1:

1. Choose **FOUR** of the following resources: **Iron, Silver, Potash, Coal, Precious gems, Lead, Building Stone, Gold, Magnesium or Copper**. Record these resources at the top of each box on the paper titled "MINING PRODUCTS RECORD Round 1."
2. Obtain a paper titled "Birdseed Mining- Resources" from your teacher.
3. Record the **description** (seed/bead, size, color) of your resource on your paper titled "MINING PRODUCTS RECORD Round 1."
4. Select a tray with a seed mixture and one mining tool (tweezers).
5. Carefully remove the cover from the tray.
6. You may mine the FOUR resources that you have already chosen for FIVE MINUTES. As each resource is removed from the pan, place it in the correct box on the paper titled "MINING PRODUCTS RECORD Round 1."

RULES:

- Only resources in the correct box at the end of the mining period may be cashed in for money.
 - Only **one student may mine at a time**.
 - No **individual student may mine for longer than 30 seconds** at a time.
 - Students must use the tool and only the tool to mine; they may not touch the beads or seeds with their hands, pencils, pens or anything else.
 - There will be fines for your environmental mess. Make sure to keep the area clean. If you have excess bird seed or a mess, get it cleaned up or be fined!
7. After the time is up, obtain a paper titled "Birdseed Mining- Price Sheet" from your teacher.
 8. Record the values on your paper titled "MINING PRODUCTS RECORD Round 1" and calculate how much was earned for each resource.

Procedures ROUND 2:

* For round 2, you will use the same tray of seeds/beads that you used in round 1.

1. Now that you are familiar with the resources that are available to you, discuss as a group which resources will be most profitable to mine. Choose **FOUR** of the following resources: **Iron, Silver, Potash, Coal, Precious gems, Lead, Building Stone, Gold, Magnesium or Copper.** Record these resources at the top of each box on the paper titled "MINING PRODUCTS RECORD Round 2."

2. Using the paper titled "Birdseed Mining- Resources," record the **description** (seed/bead, size, color) of your resource on your paper titled "MINING PRODUCTS RECORD Round 2."

3. You may mine the FOUR resources that you have already chosen for FIVE MINUTES. As each resource is removed from the pan, place it in the correct box on the paper titled "MINING PRODUCTS RECORD Round 2."

RULES:

- Only resources in the correct box at the end of the mining period may be cashed in for money.
- Only **one student may mine at a time.**
- No **individual student may mine for longer than 30 seconds** at a time.
- Students must use the tool and only the tool to mine; they may not touch the beads or seeds with their hands, pencils, pens or anything else.
- There will be fines for your environmental mess. Make sure to keep the area clean. If you have excess bird seed or a mess, get it cleaned up or be fined!

4. Using the paper titled "Birdseed Mining- Price Sheet," record the values on your paper titled "MINING PRODUCTS RECORD Round 2" and calculate how much was earned for each resource.

5. Answer the follow-up questions on the paper titled "MINING PRODUCTS RECORD Round 2"