

iCONN Learning Activity Alaska and Oil

School Level: Middle School

Task: A middle school class is preparing a newspaper on the Alaskan environment and how it affects the state's economy and citizens' lifestyle. One student has chosen to explore the environmental, legal and economic issues associated with expanded oil exploration in Alaska.

Research Question: Oil and the environment – can they get along? Issues related to oil exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.

Content Area(s): Science, Technology Education and Learning Resources and Information Technology

Content Standard(s):

Science

7. Students will understand the processes and forces that shape the structure and composition of the Earth.

Technology Education

9. Students will understand transportation systems and the environments used to move goods and people; and the subsystems common to each.

Learning Resources and Information Technology

3. Students will demonstrate a command of information skills and strategies to locate and use effectively print, nonprint and/or electronic resources to solve problems, conduct research and pursue personal interests.

4. Students will apply evaluative criteria to the selection, interpretation, analysis, reorganization and synthesis of information from a variety of sources and formats.

iCONN Database: *InfoTrac Junior Edition*

Search Strategy:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on "Select iCONN resources"
3. Click on *InfoTrac Junior Edition*
4. Type **Alaska** in the search box
5. Click on *Find* (or hit ENTER)
6. Scroll down to subject *Alaska National Wildlife Refuge*, then click on the *See* next to the proper subject heading (*Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska*) *View x periodical references* (where x is the number of matching periodical articles)
7. Click on the article's title or *Check Out* to read relevant articles

OR

1. Click on *Advanced Search* and type **Arctic and National and Wildlife and Refuge** in the search box
2. Click on the box labeled *Search for full text articles only* and click on *Find* (or hit ENTER)
3. Click on the article's title or *Check Out* to read appropriate articles

Adaptations for Differentiated Learning:

Search Strategy:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on "Select iCONN resources"
3. Click on *Kids InfoBits* and type **Arctic National Wildlife** in the search box.
4. Click on *Search* and select one of the subject groups listed.
5. Click on *View* and then click on one of the active (highlighted) tabs (*Reference, Magazines, etc.*) to get a list of documents in that category.
6. Click on article's title to read the document.

-- OR --

1. Click on *Kids InfoBits* and type **Alaska** in the search box

2. Click on *Search* then scroll down to one of the listed subjects such as **Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska**; click on *View*
3. Click on active (highlighted) tabs (e.g., *Reference, Magazines*, etc.) to get a list of documents in that category
4. Click on article's title to read the document

Search Strategy:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on "Select iCONN resources"
3. Click on *InfoTrac Student Edition*
4. Type ***Arctic and National and Wildlife and Refuge*** in the Basic search box
5. Click on Search
6. You'll find several results – here's how to narrow them down
 - a. Limit the search by clicking the box labeled *full text*
 - b. Limit the search by typing ***oil*** in the *Search* box on the left – make sure the within these results checkbox is checked. Click on *Go*
7. Click on the titles or *Full-text* or *Full-text with graphics* to read articles

Updated by Gale Cengage, July 2008