IDU Lesson Notes- Needs- Environmental Needs

Grand Bahama

Grand Bahama is located in the **northern** part of The Bahamas. It has the second largest city. **Freeport is the largest settlement** in Grand Bahama. Freeport is the main city of Grand Bahama, but **West End is the capital** of Grand Bahama. Other settlements include Eight Mile Rock, High Rock, McClean's Town and Sea Grape. Freeport is known as The Bahamas' second city. Freeport became the second largest city in The Bahamas because it has plenty fresh waters, an international airport, large hotels, deep water harbours for cruise ships to come, banks and factories, and an oil refinery. An **oil refinery** is a place where crude oil is brought by ships from other countries to be made into gasoline, lubricating oils, cooking gas, and other products. Many people from New Providence moved to Freeport since it was founded in the 1950s. Since the late 1990s, the island of Grand Bahama has been badly affected by a number of major hurricanes. These has caused many businesses to close down and people to lose their job. Some new businesses that opened in Grand Bahama are Bahama Rock, The Grand Bahama Port Container, Grand Bahama Ship Yard, VOPAK, and Pharmachem Technologies Ltd.

Natural Resources: Air, Water and Minerals

Natural resources are needed for the survival of people. People need air to breathe, air dries wet clothes, and air fills tires on cars and balls. Air helps things to fly and hot air balloons to rise. Moving air which is wind can be changed into electricity. Winds turn the blade of a windmill which turns wheels to produce electricity. Water is needed for drinking, bathing, cleaning, washing clothes and dishes, swimming, boating and for transporting things on the ocean. Water is also used to make electricity at power plants. Water moves in a cycle this is called **the water cycle**. In the water cycle, the sun heats the water on land and sea; the water evaporates into clouds; the clouds then gives us rain which falls back on the land and the sea. Minerals are used to make coins, furniture and jewelry. Fuels are used to run engines of cars, trucks, etc, in factories, power companies and many other uses.

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Pollution

Pollution is any unwanted matter that can be added to air, water or soil. Air pollution is caused when cars, trucks, and factories burn fuels. This can hurt people's lungs. Rain combines with air pollution and falls to the ground. This pollutes the land and water. When harmful materials are dumped into the water, this causes water pollution. People can help keep the air clean. Use buses or trains instead of cars. They should not burn leaves or trash. They can keep the water clean by not dumping garbage into the water. They can keep the earth clean by having clean up campaigns regularly. They can make less trash by recycling or reusing things. **Reuse means to use over again**. People can recycle glass, paper, cans to make different things. Pollution in water and on land makes them dirty, unhealthy and unsafe for humans and other living things. These things that dirty the water, land or air are called pollutants.

Taking Care of the Environment

A steward is someone who is committed to caring for something that was given to him or her. **Environmental stewards** help to conserve our natural resources. **Conservation is the wise use of resources**. We can conserve resources like water and energy by using them only when necessary. Recycling makes resources last longer. If aluminum is recycled, less aluminum, called bauxite, needs to be mined. If plastic is recycled less oil is needed to make new plastic. When paper is recycled fewer trees must be cut down. **Recycling helps reduce pollution.** Making products from recycled plastic and water cause less pollution.

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