

What Do You Know?

Fossil fuels include coal, oil, and natural gas. Read the characteristics in the box below. Decide whether each characteristic describes coal, oil, or natural gas. Then write each characteristic in the correct section of the Venn diagram on the next page.

Characteristics of Fossil Fuels

- forms from organic matter buried beneath sediments
- changed by high pressures and temperatures
- exists mostly as a solid
- exists mostly as a liquid
- exists mostly as a gas
- forms mostly from plant matter
- forms mostly from microscopic animals
- releases energy when burned
- pollutes the environment when burned
- nonrenewable resource



