

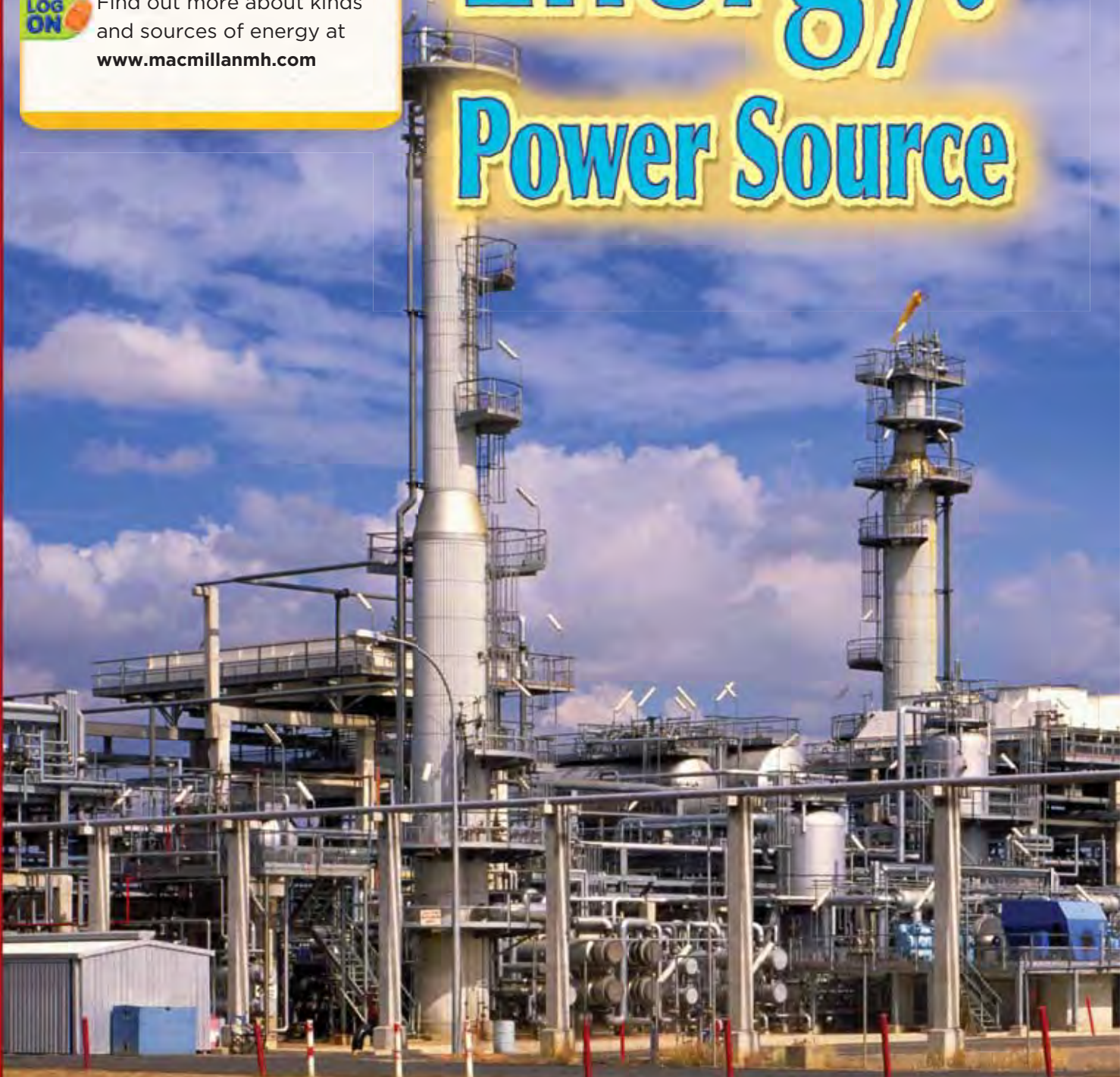
## Talk About It

Does it matter what kind of energy we use and where we get it? Why or why not?



Find out more about kinds and sources of energy at [www.macmillanmh.com](http://www.macmillanmh.com)

# Energy: Power Source





## Vocabulary

electrical

globe

fuels

decayed

# Clean as a Breeze

**H**igh wind speeds in the San Geronio Pass make conditions just right for delivering clean electricity to homes. Since 1998, Californians have been able to choose the source of their electricity. I am proud to say that my parents switched to a clean source of **electrical** power.

Though it costs a bit more to generate electricity from wind than from fossil fuels, my parents decided to help the environment. They knew that burning fossil fuels always releases pollutants into the air.

“Choosing wind or solar power is the key to making sure that Earth’s future is bright,” says Nancy Hazard. Part of an organization that promotes the use of non-polluting energy sources, Ms. Hazard also says, “Creating that vision and really going for it—that’s how we’ll get energized!”

Around the **globe**, more people than ever are willing to pay extra for clean sources of energy. If you live in a place where power might be generated with a clean technology, get things rolling by talking to your parents and teachers. Remember: “Clean Energy for a Bright, Pollution-Free Future!”

Tiayana Banks, Palm Springs, CA

A windmill farm in California uses clean technology to turn wind energy into electricity.



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# U.S. Energy Sources

Nuclear power plants generate some of the energy we use, but most of our energy comes from **fuels** such as oil, natural gas, and coal. These fuels are called fossil fuels.

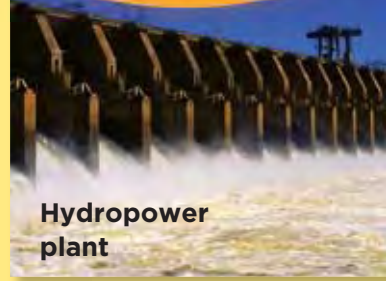


Nuclear power plant

Over millions of years, heat and pressure from deep within Earth have reacted with the remains of plants and animals that have **decayed** to form fuel.

Once these natural resources are used up, they are gone forever.

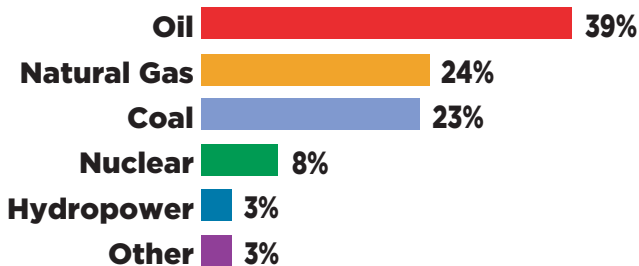
Renewable energy sources can be reused, and they create much less pollution than fossil fuels.



Hydropower plant

- Hydropower uses the force of flowing water to create electricity.
- Solar energy comes from the sun.
- Wind turbines are machines that look like giant windmills. They use the force of the wind to create electricity.
- Geothermal energy comes from heat in Earth's core that is used to create electricity.
- Biomass includes natural products such as wood and corn. These materials are burned and used for heat.

Here's a breakdown of the sources of energy in the United States.



## Top 5 Oil Users

Worldwide, people use more than 80 million barrels of oil per day. A barrel contains 42 gallons. These countries are the biggest oil guzzlers. China's oil consumption is growing faster than that of any other country.

