Activity Sheet 1



Cold snap bites

People turning up the heating during this year's cold snap is worrying the gas market.

When the Met Office sent out a severe weather warning in the north of the country, gas storage companies were put under pressure to top up the supplies which come from the North Sea.



The North Sea supplies 40% of Britain's needs which means the rest of the gas needed has to be piped in from other areas of Europe. Some gas is shipped in from Qatar and Algeria.

Gas isn't going to run out

Politicians called for more space to store natural gas in the UK, as they claimed that the UK has only eight days' supply left in storage.

A spokesman for the National Grid reassured the public, "We've got supplies coming into the UK that are able to meet these high levels of demand. I would always encourage people to use their energy efficiently but, rest assured, the gas isn't going to run out."

Risk of gas supply cuts

Recent winters have recorded the coldest temperatures in decades. People in Britain were left shivering and there were concerns about shortages in supplies of gas.

As prolonged spells of freezing weather continued, industry was warned that they may have to cut their fuel consumption to save supplies.

The National Grid was left with much less gas than they had expected when users increased the amount of gas they were using.

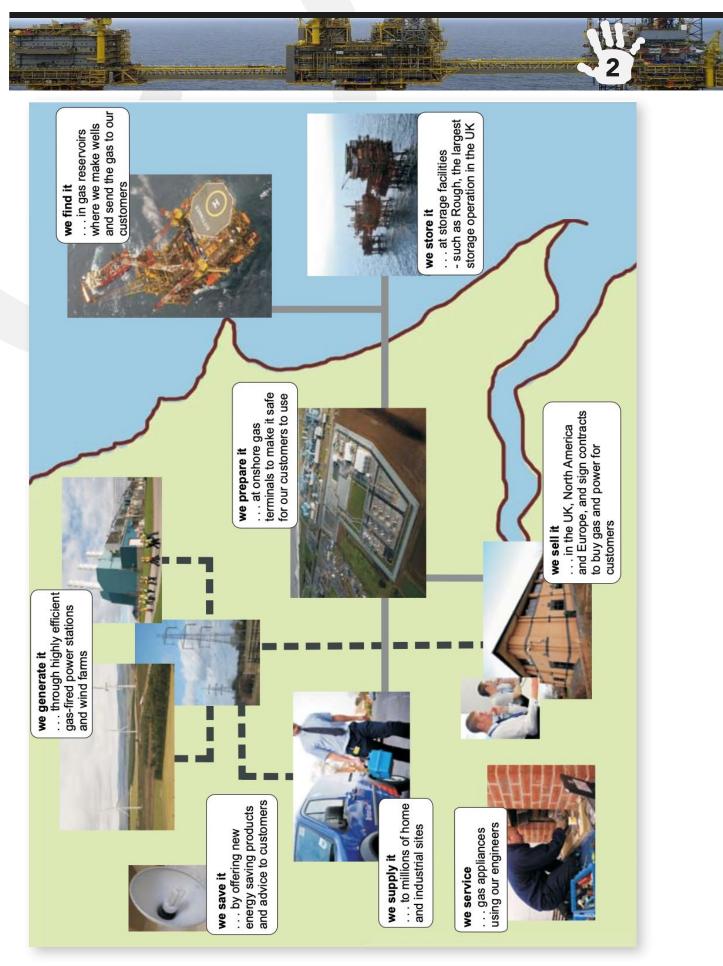
East Yorkshire meets Middle East

An engineer from Qatar has joined local gas storage company for nine months. She is one of three engineers who will gain new skills and knowledge for their return to Qatar Petroleum.

Centrica has a strong partnership with Qatar, which has the world's third largest gas reserves, and a new contract with Qatargas will deliver 2.4 million tonnes per year of gas to the UK.

This will meet about 10% of UK annual residential gas demand, enough for around 2.5 million households.

Activity Sheet 2: Energy source diagram



Activity Sheet 3



What did you learn from the news articles? Why is it important to store gas?

Where is gas found and what do we use it for?

Can you describe what a gas is?

How can gas be transported?

How is gas stored?

Activity Sheet 4



What shape are pipes? Why

How is gas found?

How are pipes laid on the sea floor? What materials are used to weigh the pipes down?

What methods were used to separate materials?

In industry how are the pipes cleaned?