Crude Oil Education

Did you know that all of the oil we use today began as tiny microscopic plants and animals that lived millions of year ago in a marine environment, before dinosaurs even existed? As these tiny plants and animals lived, they absorbed energy from the sun that was stored as carbon molecules in their bodies. When they died, they sank to the very bottom of the sea. Over millions of years, the remains of these plants and animals were covered by layers of sediment and other plants and bacteria were formed.

As they became buried deeper and deeper, heat and pressure began to rise. The amount of pressure and the degree of heat, along with the type of biomass, determined if the material became oil or natural gas. More heat produced lighter oil.

After the oil was formed, it migrated through tiny pores in the surrounding rock. Some oil migrated all the way to the surface and escaped. Other oil migrated until it was caught under layers of rock or clay, where they were trapped. These trapped oil deposits are where we find oil today.



What Are Crude Oil Products?

Once out of the ground, crude oil is delivered to a refinery by ship, barge, or pipeline. When it arrives at the refinery, the crude oil is separated into different parts to create useable petroleum products.

Crude oil is measured in barrels (abbreviated "bbls") and there are 42-U.S. gallons per barrel of crude oil that provide slightly more than 44 gallons of petroleum products.

When refined, one barrel of crude oil produces about 19 gallons of finished motor gasoline, and 10 gallons of diesel, as well as about 4 gallons of jet fuel, and many other petroleum products. Most petroleum products are used to produce energy. For example, many people in the United States use the crude oil product, propane, to heat there homes!

Crude oil is keeping your automobile or motorcycle running smoothly, and helping the transportation of goods to ports and customers worldwide, but most people would be very surprised at how big a part oil plays in making the products we all use day to day around our home, office, and schools.







Crude Oil Education Continues...

Nearly everything in our lives is made from oil, made by machinery and systems dependent on oil, and transported by oil as either gas or diesel fuel. So what exactly are the products from crude oil?

In just one barrel of oil, you can make 170 birthday candles, or 27 wax crayons. Or 39 polyester shirts or 750 pocket combs. And that's just the beginning of the long list of products from crude oil.

If you take a look in your kitchen, what do you think would be made with oil? Well look no further than your pantry. Canned food has an increased shelf life thanks to food additives, which are petrochemicals (chemical product made from petroleum).

Imagine your power goes out at night while you are in your kitchen, what to do? Well, simply light yourself a candle. That candle is made of wax, a raw petroleum product.

Perhaps you want to watch a movie or listen to a CD before you go to bed. Your DVDs and CDs come from oil products! In fact, anything made from plastic, whether in the clothes you wear, the carpet that lines your bedroom floor, even the cozy blankets and comforters you pull under your chin; all those products were made from petrochemicals as well.

Say you are running around in your backyard and trip and cut your leg. Well, you will probably have to put a bandage on you, and yes, that bandage is made from petroleum.

If you go on a boat trip, the life jacket you wear and the boat your dad is driving are both products from oil! While you are on that boat, suppose you want to do a little fishing. Your fishing rods, fishing lures, fishing boots, and the insect repellent you wear are all products from oil. Even the ice chest you use to put the fish in is made from oil.

At your schools there are many products that came from crude oil. Things like crayons and ink markers have petroleum in them, along with the plastic desks and cage for the classroom pet! Not only that, but during recess when you grab a basketball or football, you are using petroleum products!

Oil has its hands in so many things that we take for granted every day. There are more than 6,000 products made from petroleum! So next time you looking around your house, think about how many petroleum products you have! To help you out with some of the products, look at the list below!

More Than 6,000 Products are Made from Petroleum

Adhesives Ammonia Anesthetics Antihistamines Antiseptics Artificial Limbs Artificial Turf Asphalt Aspirin Awnings **Ballpoint Pens** Bandages Basketballs Boats Cameras Candles **Car Battery** Cases Car Enamel Carpet CDs Clotheslines Cold Cream Combs Computer Cabinets Cortisone Crayons **Credit Cards** Curtains Dashboards **Denture Adhesive** Dentures

Deodorant Detergents Dice Diesel Fuel **Dishwashing Liquids** Dresses Drinking Cups Duct Tape DVD's Blankets Electrical Tape Enamel **Epoxy** Paints Eyeglasses Fertilizers Filters **Fishing Boots** Fishing Rods Floor Was Folding Doors Food Preservation Footballs **Furniture Polish** Gasoline Glue Golf Bags Golf Balls Grease Guitar Strings Hair Coloring Hair Curlers Hand Lotion **Hearing Aids**

Heart Valves **Hockey Pucks** Ice buckets Ice Chest Ice Cube Trays Ink Inner Tubes Insect Repellent Insecticides Kerosene Life Jackets Linoleum Lipstick Loudspeakers Mascara Mineral Oil Model Cars Mops Motorcycles Movie Film Nail Polish Naphtha Nylon Pagers Paint Pajamas Pantyhose Parachutes Percolator Perfumes Pillows Plastic Purses

Putty Radios **Refrigerator Linings Roller Skate Wheels** Rollerblades Roofing Rubbing Alcohol Safety Glass Shampoo Shaving Cream Shoes Shower Curtains Shower Doors Skis Ski Boots Soap Dishes Soccer Balls Soft Contact Lenses Sunglasses Surfboards **Sweaters** Telephones **Tennis Racquets** Tents Tires Toil Seats Tool Boxes Toothbrushes Toothpaste Trash Bags Upholstery Yarn