

Biofuel Milestones

Introduction:

Now more than ever, the energy to run cars, generate electricity, and power about anything is coming from a variety of energy sources. One type of energy is called bioenergy. Bioenergy is a renewable source of energy that is produced from plants and animals. Unlike bioenergy, fossil fuels, such as crude oil and coal, are not renewable because it takes millions of years for these fuels to form. Bioenergy comes from many types of sources, including corn. This Click It and Print It activity is part of the 4-H Bioenergy Educational Curriculum.

Directions:

Find a large space to draw a time line (black top/sidewalk or chalkboard), chalk, Biofuel Milestones (see following page), scissors. Draw a time line with one end labeled 1900 and the other labeled 2013. Print the Biofuel Milestones. Cut out only the pictures (not the captions) and share them with the children. As you share each picture, read its caption (but not the date). Ask the group to guess when each of the events occurred and to place the pictures near that point on the time line. Then, share the actual dates with the children.

Note to the volunteer: If you would like to add additional events to the time line, use the following: 2010—entire class of professional tractor pullers all used biodiesel; 2008—first biodiesel boat travels around the world in 60 days.

Application:

Review when each of the biofuel milestones occurred. Ask the children whether the milestones are recent or if they happened a long time ago. [Answers will vary depending on milestone.] Then ask them what other machines use biofuel. [Buses, trains, or motorcycles.]

Source: Scheer, S. D., & Fox, B. (2013). Bioproducts: Bioenergy education. Ohio State University Extension, 4-H Youth Development. Retrieved from www.ohio4h.org/BioenergyEducation.



First airplane powered by biofuels
on a passenger flight from Houston to
Chicago: 2011



First Indy Car series to use 100%
ethanol: 2007



First tractor fueled with biodiesel
produced by John Deere: 2005



Henry Ford's Model T runs on ethanol
or gasoline or both: 1908



4-H Cloverbuds

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