

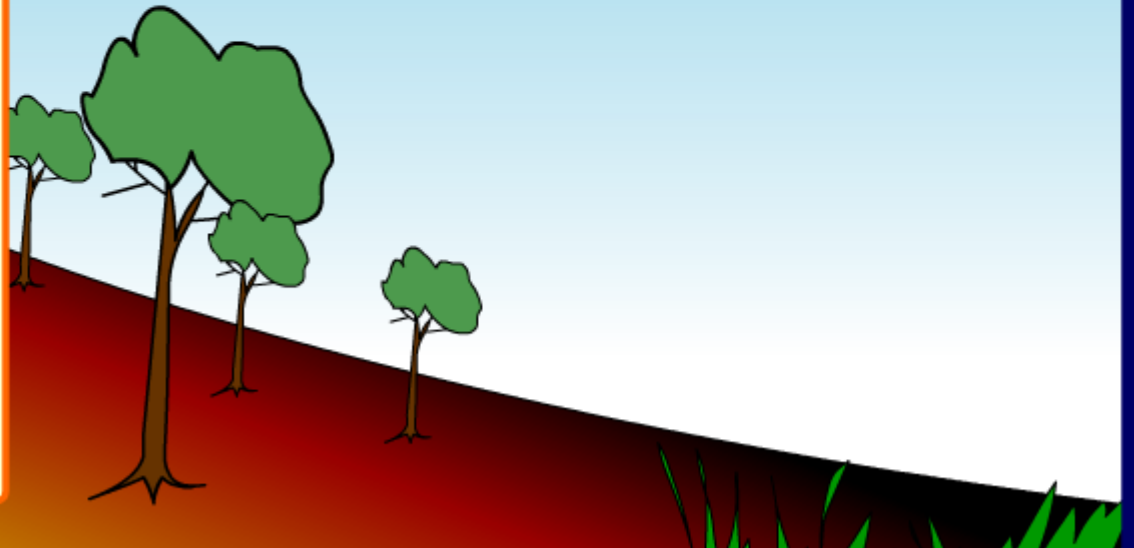
## Formation of Fossil Fuels



## How coal is formed

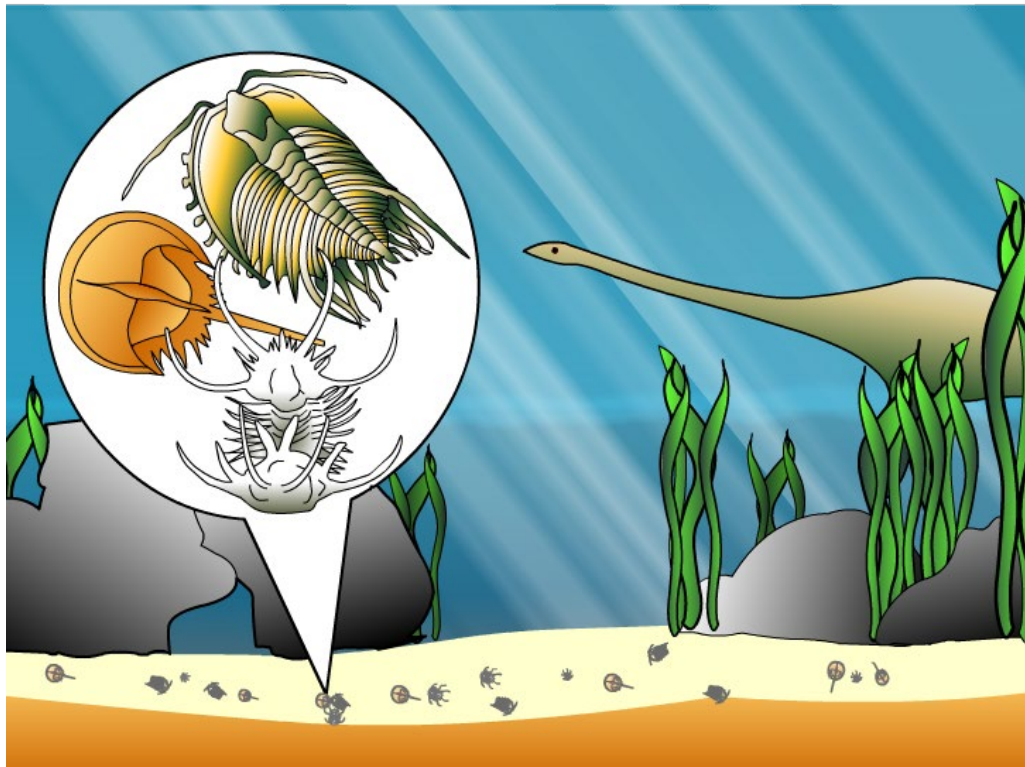
The process of coal formation takes hundreds of millions of years.

Click "**play**" to find out about how the process works.



# Early stages of oil and gas formation

Oil and gas are also biological in origin. Millions of years ago, tiny animals lived in the sea. Like today, their ecosystem was dependent on heat and light from the Sun and photosynthesis by plants.



When they died, the animals fell into mud and sand at the bottom of the sea, but did not rot away.

Over millions of years they were buried deeper by the mud and sand.

# Later stages of oil and gas formation

The temperature and pressure (caused by the weight of the sediments and deep burial) changed the mud and sand into rock, and the dead animals into crude oil and natural gas.



The oil and gas is extracted from the seabed or under the ground by drilling oil wells.

Oil wells drilled at sea are supported by oil platforms.

## Complete these sentences about fossil fuels

1. Oil, natural gas and coal were created millions of years ago and are called \_\_\_\_\_ fuels.

2a. Coal started off as \_\_\_\_\_ that stored energy from the Sun by photosynthesis.

2b. The dead plants fell to the bottom of swampy waters and over millions of years were buried by \_\_\_\_\_ of mud.

Sun's

plants

sand

layers

fossil

coal

pressure

sea creatures

?

hide

solve

