

## **iCONN Learning Activity Alaska and Oil**

**Level:** High School

**Task:** Students will investigate the impact of oil exploration and extraction on the ecology of the Alaskan tundra and present their findings to a citizen's group who has hired them for this purpose. As part of the project students will assume different roles (e.g. scientists, conservationists, government liaisons) and create a portfolio of information for their clients. Students will select the most appropriate format for the presentation of their information (e.g. brochure, chart, map, multimedia presentation).

**Research Question:** How does the increasing demand for energy influence decisions about exploring and extracting resources?

**Content Area(s):** Science, Learning Resources and Information Technology

**Content Standard(s):**

**Science:**

7. Students will understand the processes and forces that shape the structure and composition of the earth.  
(g) analyze the costs, benefits, alternatives and consequences of natural resource exploration, development and consumption

Learning Resources and Information Technology

1. Students will define their information needs and identify effective courses of action to conduct research, solve complex problems and pursue personal interests.  
(d) develop essential questions related to a topic and formulate a research hypothesis related to the topic
5. Students will use appropriate technologies to create written, visual, oral and multimedia products to communicate ideas, information or conclusions to others.  
(d) independently determine the most appropriate technologies and formats to use in presenting materials gathered from a variety of print, non-print and electronic resources and to create a presentation that clearly communicates information and new knowledge
6. Students will evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of their own choices and uses of information and technology for problem solving and communication.  
(b) independently and continuously assess the quantity and quality (relevance, credibility) of retrieved information

**iCONN Database:** *Expanded Academic ASAP*

**Search Strategy:**

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on "Select iCONN resources"
3. Open *Expanded Academic ASAP*
4. Click on *Advanced Search*
5. Type one term in each search box: ***Alaska, oil, tundra*** and use the connecting word ***AND*** from the drop down menu

6. Click on the box labeled “to documents with full text” and click on *Search*
7. Click on the article title or *Full-text* to view
8. Read, print and/or email relevant documents

**Adaptations for Differentiated Learning:** Limit the search to *Alaska\** and *pipeline* in the *Discovering Collection*. Use a keyword search for the words *Alaska* and *oil* in the *InfoTrac Student Edition*. Refine the search in the *General (InfoTrac) OneFile* by selecting “peer-reviewed publications.”

**iCONN Database:** *Discovering Collection*

**Search Strategy**

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Click on *Discovering Collection*
4. Choose Advanced search
5. Type *Alaska\* pipeline* in the search boxes (select *Keyword(ke)* from the drop-down menu), use the connecting word *AND* (this is the default)
6. Click on *Search* (or hit ENTER)
7. Click on article title to read articles

**iCONN Database:** *InfoTrac Student Edition*

**Search Strategy**

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Click on *InfoTrac Student Edition*
4. Use default basic search and type *Alaska oil* in the search box
5. Click on box labeled “to documents with full text” and click on *Search*
6. Click on the article title or *Full-text* to view
7. Read, print and/or email relevant documents

**iCONN Database:** *InfoTrac OneFile*

**Search Strategy**

1. Click on *General (InfoTrac) OneFile*
2. Click on *Advanced Search*
3. Type one term in each box: *Alaska, oil, tundra* and use the connecting word *AND* from the drop down menu
4. Click on the box labeled “to documents with full text ” and the box labeled “to peer-reviewed publications”
5. Click on *Search*
6. Click on the article title or *Full-text* to view
7. Read, print and/or email relevant documents

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