



A Very Helpful Resource

CCSSR2: Figure out ideas when you read.

Natural gas is a really great resource. It helps people stay warm. It helps them cook. It helps many people in many ways.

To find natural gas, scientists study the land. They look for a kind of rock. That rock is where gas is under the ground. Then explorers dig holes to look for the gas. If they find it, the gas company drills deep holes. Then they put pipes into hole to get the gas. The pipes reach the gas. Then the gas goes in the pipes. It comes up from under ground. It is like the air. It is light. It travels up the pipes.

People used to make gas from coal and oil. That was messy. But they didn't have natural gas everywhere. Then they figured out how to get it from places where it was to places where people needed it. They invented the pipeline.

A pipeline is a very long pipe. It's made of many smaller pipes. They connect each pipe carefully. There are more than a million miles of natural gas pipelines in the United States today.

Outside the city, there is a place where the gas is pumped to homes. It's called the city gate. It's a place where workers measure the gas. They add smell to it so people can tell where it is. They send it into the city through smaller pipes called gas mains. Those are under the ground.

There are many miles of city gas pipes. To protect people in the city, there are shutoff points along the pipeline. The gas company can turn off the gas supply and fix it if there is a problem. The gas company is great. They keep us all warm and safe.

When gas gets to your home, it goes into a small pipe. Then your family has the power you need. Gas helps many people live much better. It is a great resource. It is the best resource we have. Everyone can use it. It helps people get warm. It helps people cook food. It helps in many ways.

Gas comes from under ground to the city. It travels a long way. People need it. It is a wonderful way to help people get energy. It is a great resource.

Support the Main Idea

What is the main idea of this passage?

Underline five sentences in the passage that support that idea.