**Questions for “Coal in Pennsylvania”**

1. What are three of the most important things coal is burned in order to produce?

1. What are three things that coal is refined in order to make? (there are more than three)
2. Coal became a major industry with the invention of what?
3. Where was the earliest note of coal in PA at?
4. The earliest record of **actual coal mining** in Pennsylvania was where?
5. What was the first mine superintendent?
6. What is another name that historic coal miners used for anthracite coal?
7. Who first used anthracite coal and where was it used?
8. Expansion of the coal mining industry took place after the Civil War. What historic movement did the coal mining industry power after the war was over?

1. What type of transportation was constructed almost exclusively for the transportation of coal?
2. What was the historical event following World War I caused many industries, including coal, to slow down drastically?
3. Coal production peaked again during which war?
4. After World War II, production of coal once again slumped. What caused this shift in demand?
5. What are some effects that historic coal mining has had on the environment? What has been done now to prevent from further harm the environment?
6. Based on this article, write a short 3-5 sentence summary of the historical pattern in the coal industry, and what influenced the production during specific time periods. What other things do you think coal was used for during those times that were not mentioned in the article?

**Answer Sheet:**

1. What are three of the most important things coal is burned in order to produce?

-Electricity, iron, and steel.

2. What are three things that coal is refined in order to make? (there are more than three)

-Plastics, synthetic rubber, fertilizer, cosmetics, food products, paint, dyes, and even the fibers of our clothes.

3. Coal became a major industry with the invention of what?

-The steam engine

4. Where was the earliest note of coal in PA at?

-A site along the Kiskiminetas River a few miles below the present community of Saltsburg on the Indiana-Westmoreland County line.

5. The earliest record of **actual coal mining** in Pennsylvania was where?

- “Plan of Fort Pitt and PartsAdjacent” in 1761.

6. What was the first mine superintendent?

-Major Edward Ward of the Fort Pitt garrison.

7. What is another name that historic coal miners used for anthracite coal?

-Stone Coal

8. Who first used anthracite coal and where was it used?

-The first use of anthracite was by the Gore Brothers in their blacksmith

shop at Wilkes-Barre in 1769.

9. Expansion of the coal mining industry took place after the Civil War. What historic movement did the coal mining industry power after the war was over?

-The industrial revolution

10. What type of transportation was constructed almost exclusively for the transportation of coal?

-Much of the railroad network in Pennsylvania was specifically constructed to transport coal.

What year did the Pennsylvania coal industry see its greatest year? How much coal was produced?

-The Pennsylvania coal industry saw its greatest year in 1918, when 330,000 miners produced a staggering 277 million tons of coal worth $705 million at that time.

11. What was the historical event following World War I caused many industries, including coal, to slow down drastically?

-The Great Depression of the 1930s

12. Coal production peaked again during which war?

-World War II

13. After World War II, production of coal once again slumped. What caused this shift in demand?

-Other forms of fuel, such as oil, became more popular.

14. What are some effects that historic coal mining has had on the environment? What has been done now to prevent from further harm the environment?

- The economic benefits derived from the widespread use of coal have not come without serious cost to the environment. Acid drainage from coal-mining operations has caused extensive pollution of streams and loss of fish and other wildlife. Mining also results in disruption of groundwater resources, soil erosion, and scarring of the land. Abandoned piles of waste material left behind from coal mining and coal processing blight many areas and contribute to surface water and groundwater pollution.

-Strict regulation of coal mining and processing has reduced harmful side effects, and remedial work has corrected some of the past damage.

15. Based on this article, write a short 3-5 sentence summary of the historical pattern in the coal industry, and what influenced the production during specific time periods. What other things do you think coal was used for during those times that were not mentioned in the article?