



Article Guide: License to Drill: New rules for offshore drilling could threaten nearly all of America's coasts

<http://scienceovereverything.com/?p=3788&preview=true>

Part 1: What is offshore drilling?

Directions:

- Read the section of the article titled “What is offshore drilling?”
 - Box vocabulary words or words that you have not seen before
 - Underline in the text where the focus questions are addressed
- Answer each focus question

Focus questions

1. Where in the ocean does offshore drilling take place?

2. How do offshore drills access crude oil and bring it to the surface?

3. What part of the United States Government oversees offshore drilling?

Part 2: Environmental consequences

Directions:

- Read each understanding question
 - Think about what you would need to know to answer that question
- Read the section of the article titled “Environmental consequences”.
 - Box vocabulary words or words that you have not seen before
- Answer each understanding question

Understanding questions

1. What do you think poses a bigger environmental risk from offshore drilling, oil spills or regular operations?

2. How can damage to a local ecosystem potentially harm humans economically? What are some social repercussions of a region losing its main source of income?

Part 3: Is offshore drilling worth it?

Directions:

- Read the section of the article titled “Is offshore drilling worth it?”
 - Box vocabulary words or words that you have not seen before
 - Discuss with a partner how you would address the extension questions.
 - Write a response to the extension questions
3. Imagine you were on the board of directors of an oil company. You and the other members are discussing if the company should start a new offshore oil drilling project. From a business stand point, would you be for or against building new offshore oil rigs? Cite at least two pieces of evidence for your argument.
