

# Broken Words

Ten words are broken apart below. Put them back together. Match each part on the left with its other part on the right.

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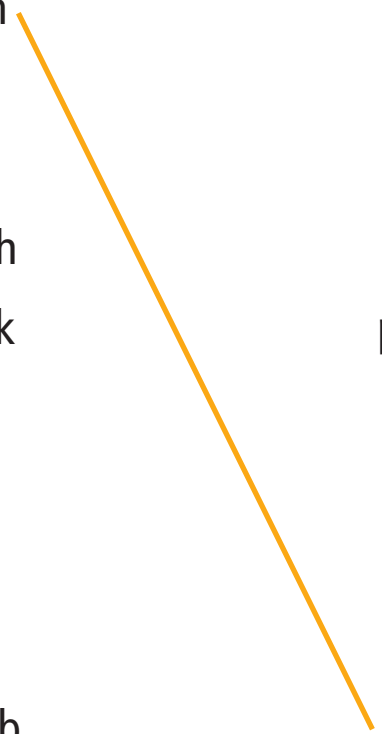
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## Cleaning Up an Oil Spill

By Ron Fridell

On April 20, an oil well off the Louisiana coast blew up. Eleven workers were killed. Oil leaked up from the ocean floor. It formed a huge puddle on top.

The oil already was hurting the ocean. What next? Now it was headed for beaches and marshes. Now it could hurt birds as well as fish. How could we get the oil out of the ocean?



Courtesy of U.S. Coast Guard

The rig burned for two days. Then it sank.

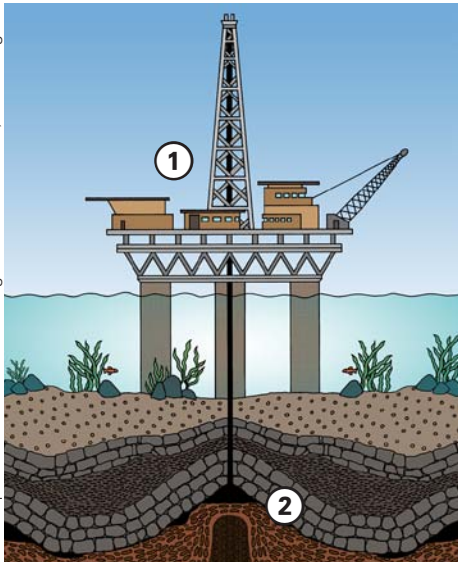
See Oil Spill on page 2

# Oil Spill

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Crews of workers are burning some of the oil. Other workers are skimming it onto ships. People are working day and night to save the land and animals.

U.S. Dept. of the Interior-Minerals Mgmt Service/J. Martin, © Learning A-Z



- ① An oil rig has pipes that pull oil out of layers of rock.
- ② Oil is often found deep under layers of rock in Earth's crust.

## Do You Know?

The oil is also a danger to turtles, dolphins, and whales.



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## WOWSER!

Scientists use dish soap to clean animals with oil on them.



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## Write About This!

You know that fish, turtles, dolphins, and whales live in the ocean. Do you know what kinds of animals, big and small, live near you? Make a list. Use your list to help you write a story about animals that live near you.



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## Washing Wildlife

Oil is bad for birds. It messes up their feathers and makes them feel cold. People who love



© Paul Bucklepa/Corbis

birds come to help them. They wash the birds' oily feathers in soapy water. It's a two-person job. One person holds the bird still. The other one does the scrubbing. They wash and rinse the bird until it's all clean. They make sure the bird's feathers are all in place. Then the bird is ready to return to the wild.