Resource Hunt

What is the Objective? Collect as many items as you can to model the depletion of non-renewable resources.

What you need:

- 100 of the same item
  - (Ex. Pennies, poker chips, paper squares, etc.)
- 4 containers (big enough to hold all 100 items)
- Stopwatch
- Pencil and paper

Round	# of Items
Round 1	
Round 2	
Round 3	
Round 4	

What to do:

- Gather 100 items that are all the same.
  - *The adult will hide all of these items in the room without the learner present.*
- Instruct your learner to wait in a different area (their bedroom or a bathroom work well).
- Once the items are hidden, challenge the learner to find as many items as they can within 30 seconds. They will place the items they find in the empty container.
- After 30 seconds, count how many items they find. Record this number in a chart like the one above. Keep the collected items in one container and have another empty for the next round.
- Then, complete rounds 2-4 the same way, with an empty container and 30 seconds each time.
- Ask, what is happening to the items each round?
  - *Hint: The number of items should decrease each round.*

Notes for Adults:

- Be sure to hide the items in places where they can be seen but not all gathered in one area.
- For younger learners, you may want to hide the items in more obvious locations.

STEM Connection:

- As we use non-renewable resources like coal and oil, they are not replenished rapidly. Once we find them, and remove them from the Earth, the supply lessens.
- 85% of our energy comes from non-renewable sources, so scientists have to figure out a way to stretch the limited resources we have.

Take it further:

- Try hiding fewer items in the first round. Is it more difficult to find them all? How does this change the numbers found in each round?
- Try re-hiding the items each time to represent renewable resources that we can regenerate. How does this change the number of items you found in each round?