

OIL SPILL

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Imagine you are a fish, swimming through the Gulf of Mexico. You're happy and free. The water is cool, refreshing and sparkling blue.

Suddenly blackness.

It comes closer and then you realize that you are trapped. The water is getting warmer and warmer. You can't breathe. You try to find a way out, but there's no doorway to freedom.

April 20, 2010

When the men were drilling on the Transocean oil rig, their drill kept breaking and breaking as it went down in the ocean floor. It went 30,000 feet [5.6 miles] below the ocean floor. Workers on the rig did not care if the oil drill was breaking. They want the job done quickly so that they their drill kept breaking and breaking as it went down in the ocean floor. It went 30,000 feet [5.6 miles] below the ocean floor. Workers on the rig did not care if the oil drill was breaking. They wantED the job done quickly so that they could earn their money quicker. They were ignoring the clues that the drill was breaking to chunks.

On the day of the explosion, the Transocean oil rig was 10 years old and worked until then without a single accident. And that day the workers gathered to celebrate the oil rig's 10th anniversary.

Later that day, the Transocean oil rig exploded into a giant fire ball. Spewing oil into the pristine waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The oil rig sunk into the Gulf of Mexico. Eleven people died in the initial explosion. Their were 115 people who survived in life boats. Days later, animals were dying and fishermen were losing their jobs.

The oil spill of April 2010 has been an outrage. And is known as the worst oil spill in American history.

The oil doesn't just cover the ocean, it also goes under the water, causing the water to become warmer. This causes animals in the sea, like fish or turtles, to die or become endangered. Also, animals on the surface of the gulf, like pelicans and sea birds, have died from the heat and the oil on the water.

People like fishermen or restaurant owners have lost jobs or run out of business because if there's oil covered fish in the Gulf. People aren't able to fish for food. Meaning, they won't be paid and fishermen will lose there jobs.

Restaurant owners lose jobs because if there are no fishermen getting paid they lose their jobs. And if no fish is given to the restaurant owners they can't sell food and run out of business.



These are two birds that were stuck in the oil and that people have found along the ocean shore. They were brought here to be washed.



This is a picture of the Transocean oil rig sinking and burning into the Gulf of Mexico.

How did the oil spill happen?

Well, the people drilling didn't care that the drill was breaking they just care about the money they get for drilling oil. How the drill was breaking was that pieces were breaking off the drill. The pieces were chunks of rubber. When the drill was coming up, someone realized that there were chunks of rubber on the drill, he realized the drill was breaking, but he just kept drilling.

Well, oil is the resource that powers our cars and heats our homes. We use about 178 gallons of oil a day. It's one of the earth's most powerful resources. About 27.2 percent of oil is used for transportation in the United States. The problem is that oil has been becoming more and more important because other countries have been taking parts of the ocean that are easy to drill in. Oil is something we use and see a lot in our lives like for cooking and powering cars. Without oil, we would be using electricity to power our cars and a lot more devices. Oil drilling

Oil drilling is what people do to get oil. Oil can come under the ground or below the ocean. An oil drill platform is where a drill would be put. What makes an oil drill go down is its bottom. The device at the bottom of the drill contains 3 spiky balls. These balls allow the entire drill to go farther down the surface of the ground or ocean floor. There is also a big device called a blowout preventer. If the pressure goes all the way up to the surface of the ocean, it could cause an explosion. The only way to stop that is for a force to push that pressure back down. That's what the blowout preventer is supposed to do. But it wasn't working. And that's why the explosion happened in the Gulf.

How can we prevent future oil spills?

One night, me, my brother, and my mom were watching Jeopardy! It was the two greatest Jeopardy players against this computer named Watson. And Watson won. On the show, it explained that Watson can be useful for the environment. Very useful. It can tell us how to stop things from happening. In the future, maybe we could use Watson to prevent us from making more mistakes.

Think clean energy:

Wind Mills, hybrid cars, solar panels, public transportation, rollerblading, scootering, and walking! Get some exercise for Pete's Sake!

Let's get oil out of our heads, and recycling in our hearts!

The End (or just the beginning).

GREEN ENERGY



Wind mills create energy without oil. This is very helpful for the Environment.

Hybrid cars run on electricity and not oil.

