

**Transition Palo Alto** is exploring ways our community can respond to Peak Oil and Climate Change. We encourage you to check out our website. You may download and distribute copies of this “Peak Oil” coloring book from the Transition Palo Alto website: [www.transitionpaloalto.org](http://www.transitionpaloalto.org)

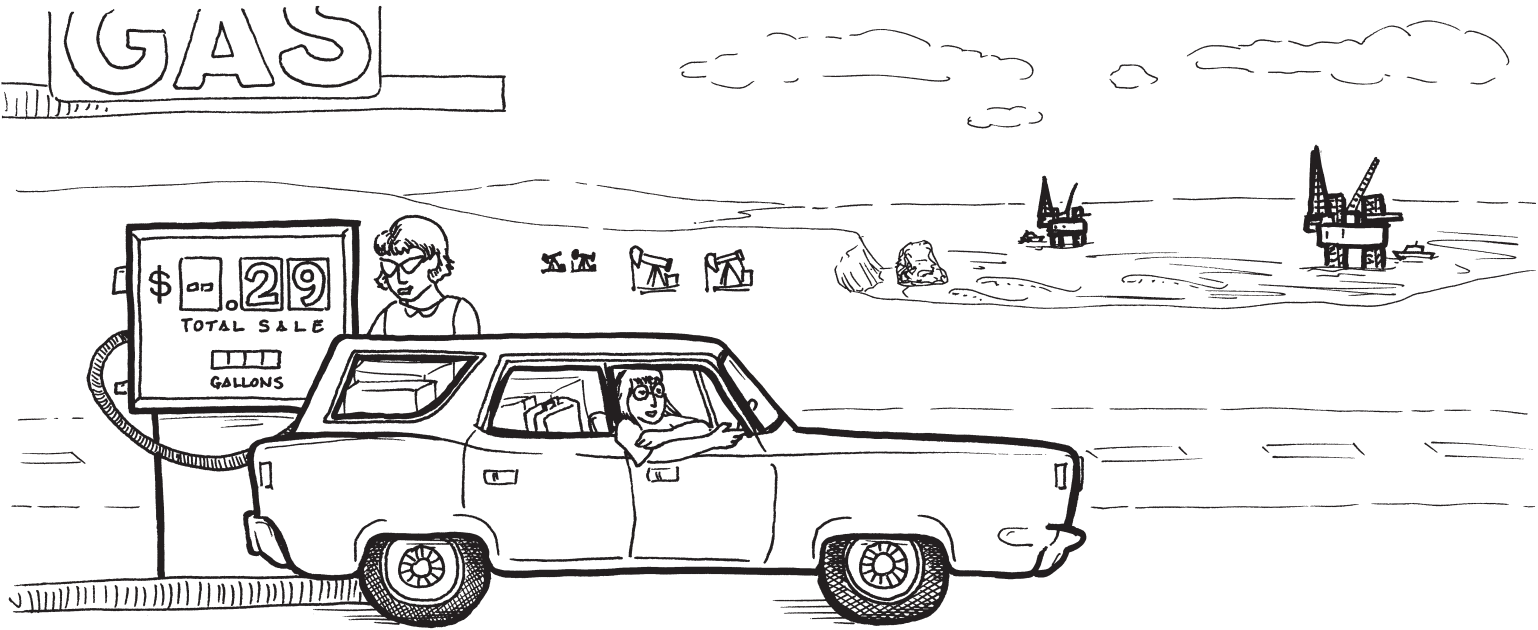
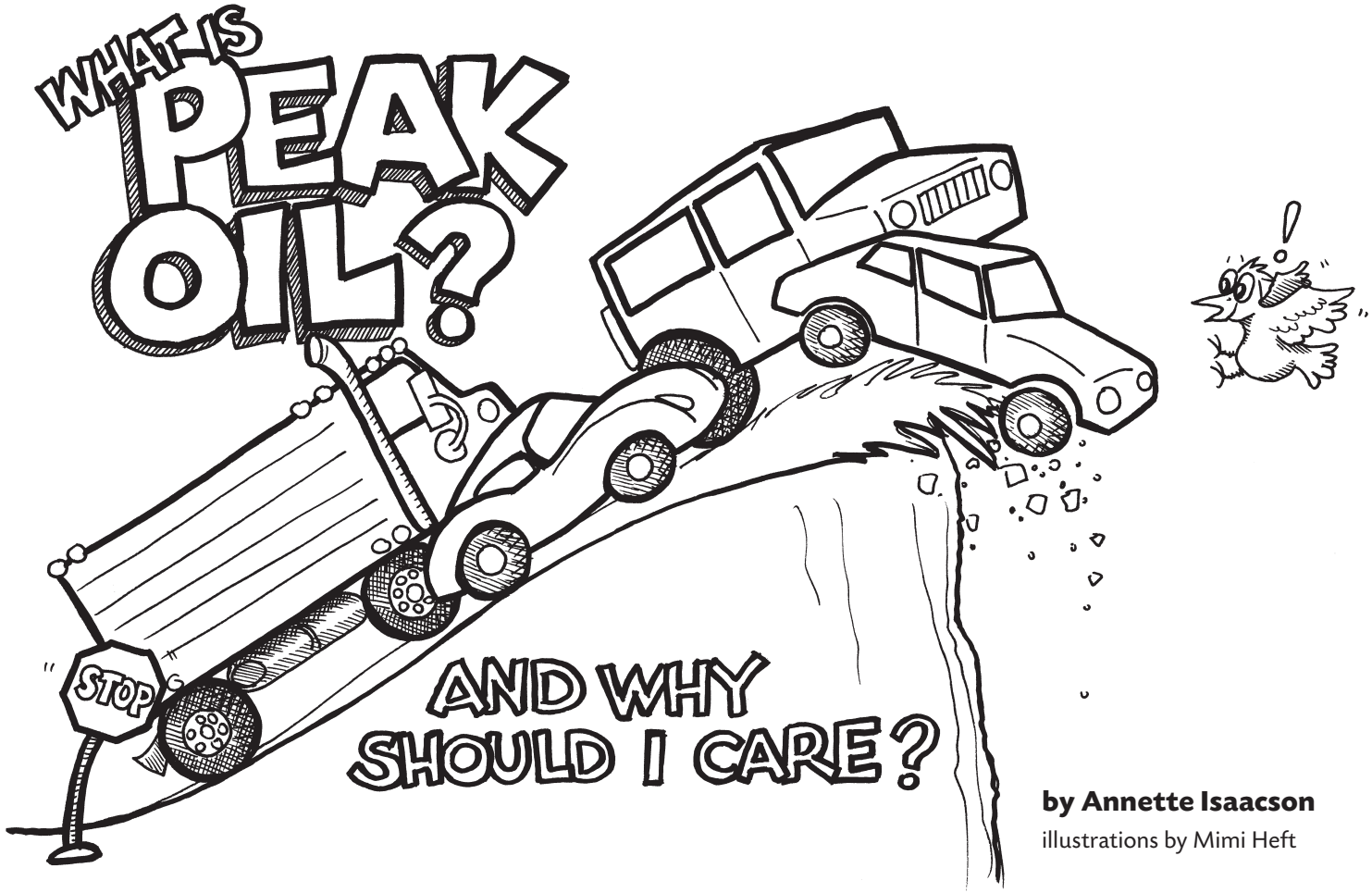


**Products Made From Petroleum\***

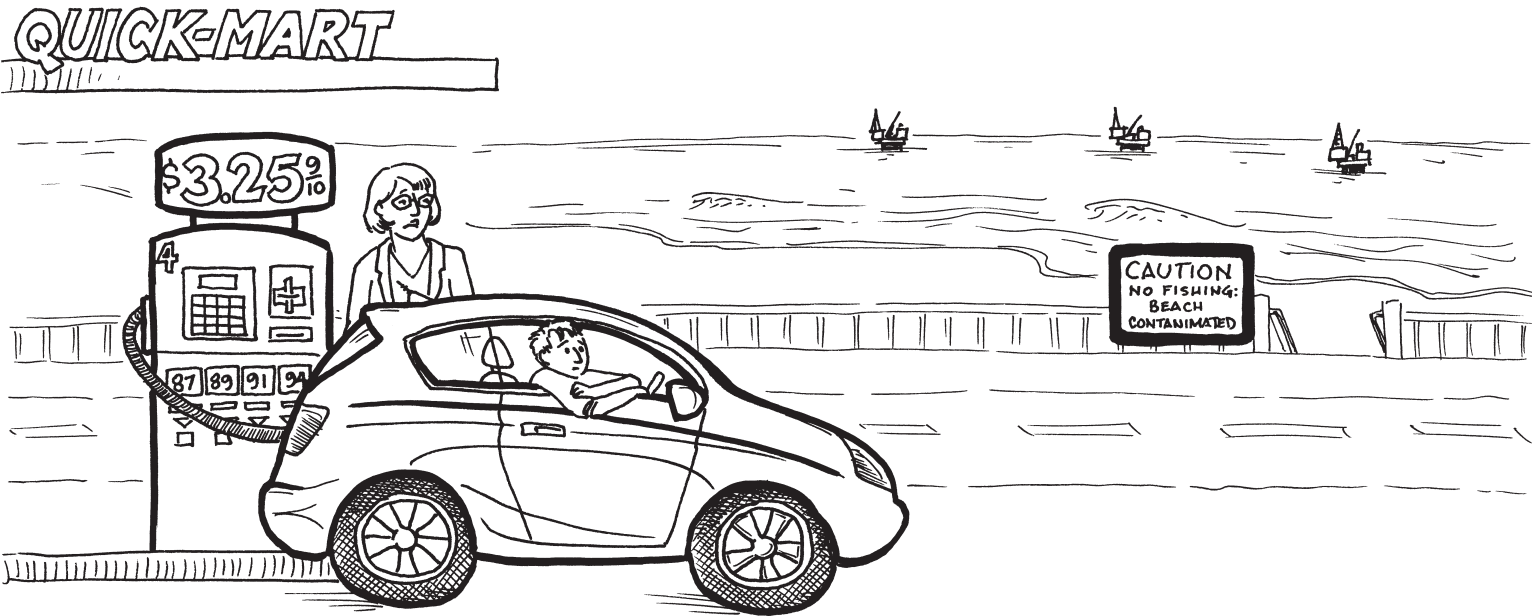
A partial list of products with petroleum as an ingredient (this is only a small sample):

nylon zippers	ink	knitting needles	soap	nylon spatulas	balloons
ballet tights	computer diskettes	tennis racquets	cough syrup	Teflon pans	dog toys
plastic hangers	computers	golf balls	hair spray	Formica	flea collars
pantyhose	copiers	baby aspirin	lipstick	linoleum	DVDs/CD-ROMs
permanent press	magic markers	stuffed animals	denture adhesives	garden hoses	check book covers
clothing	telephones	band aids	trash bags	plungers	shopping bags
flip flops/thongs	microfilm	Vaseline	egg cartons	floor wax	video cassettes
fake fur	cameras	rubbing alcohol	freezer bags	Plexiglas	credit cards
polyester clothing	earphones	Pepto-Bismol	candles	spray paint	dice
ball point pens	footballs	hair coloring	wax paper	Anti-freeze	watch bands

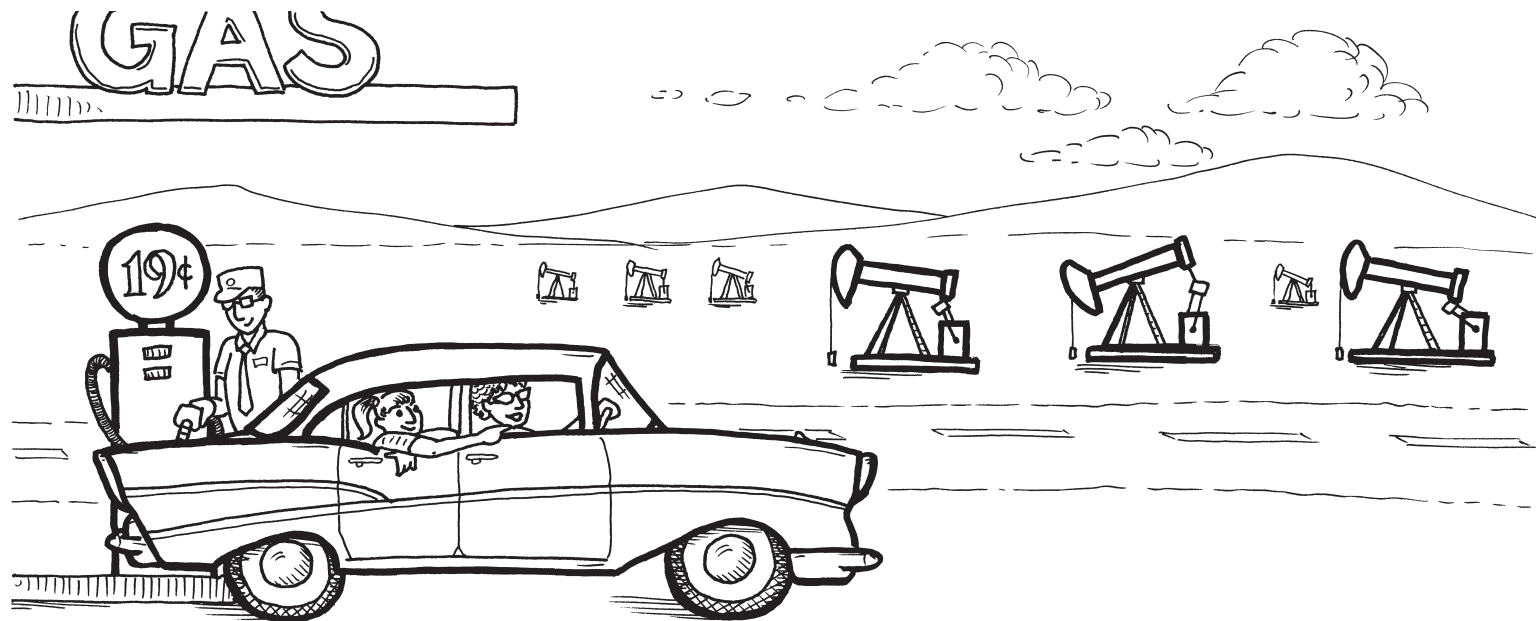
\*Source: Everyday Simplicity: <http://everydaysimplicity.blogspot.com/2007/06/products-made-from-petroleum-yikes.html>



**In 1968**, as my mom was driving me to U.C. Santa Barbara for college, I noticed there weren’t as many oil pumps alongside the highway. Most of the easy-to-get oil was gone, but I could see oil derricks just offshore, in the ocean. At that time, oil companies had to drill under about 14 feet of water to find oil.



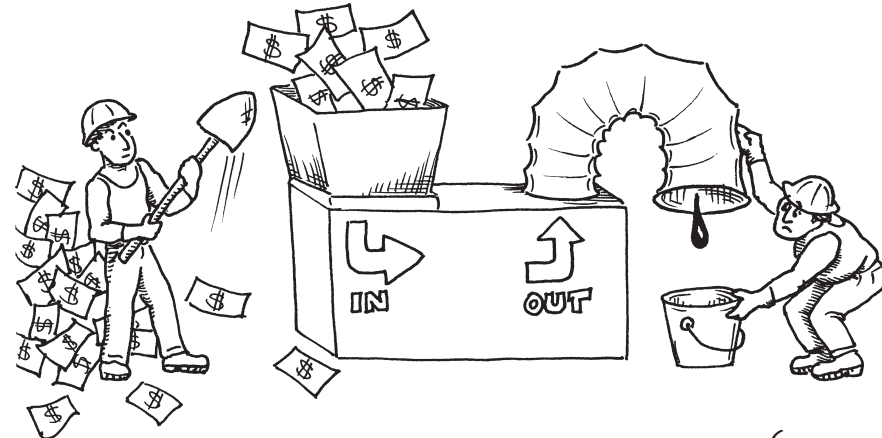
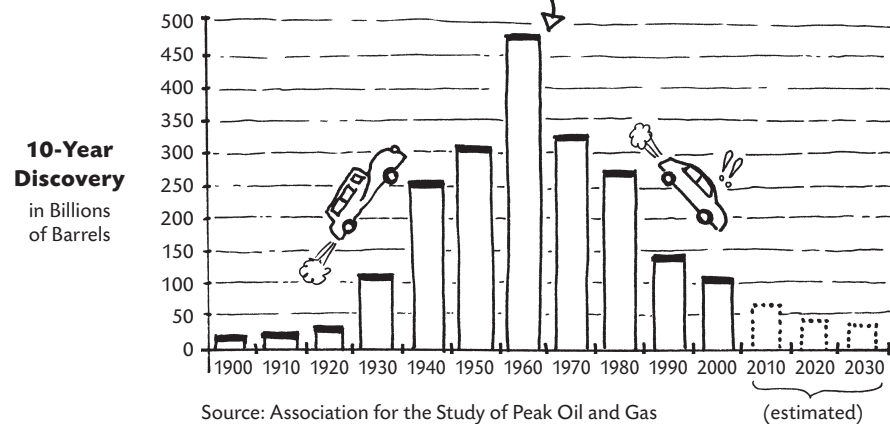
**In 2010**, driving back from Los Angeles, I noticed there were *hardly* any oil pumps alongside the highway, and the ocean derricks were further offshore. Then I heard breaking news on the radio: a deep-water oil derrick had exploded and was gushing millions of gallons of oil each day into the Gulf of Mexico. The newscaster said the pipe sat *an entire mile* (5,280 feet) underwater, and it would take *months* to cap it!



In 1957, on a family road trip to Disneyland, I asked my mom what all those strange-looking machines were alongside the highway. She said, “They’re pumping oil. We get our gasoline from oil.”

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### Oil Discoveries Have Been Declining Since 1964



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**Today**, geologists say most of the easy-to-get oil has already been used up. This means the oil that remains is even harder to get—so now the oil companies have to use deep-ocean drills and mine tar sands. Extracting oil these ways is not only more and more expensive, but it’s also causing ecological destruction. **We are reaching the peak of oil production.** Peak Oil—when the total production of oil reaches its maximum and starts to decrease—could happen as early as this year, or maybe in the next few years—either way, *it will happen.*

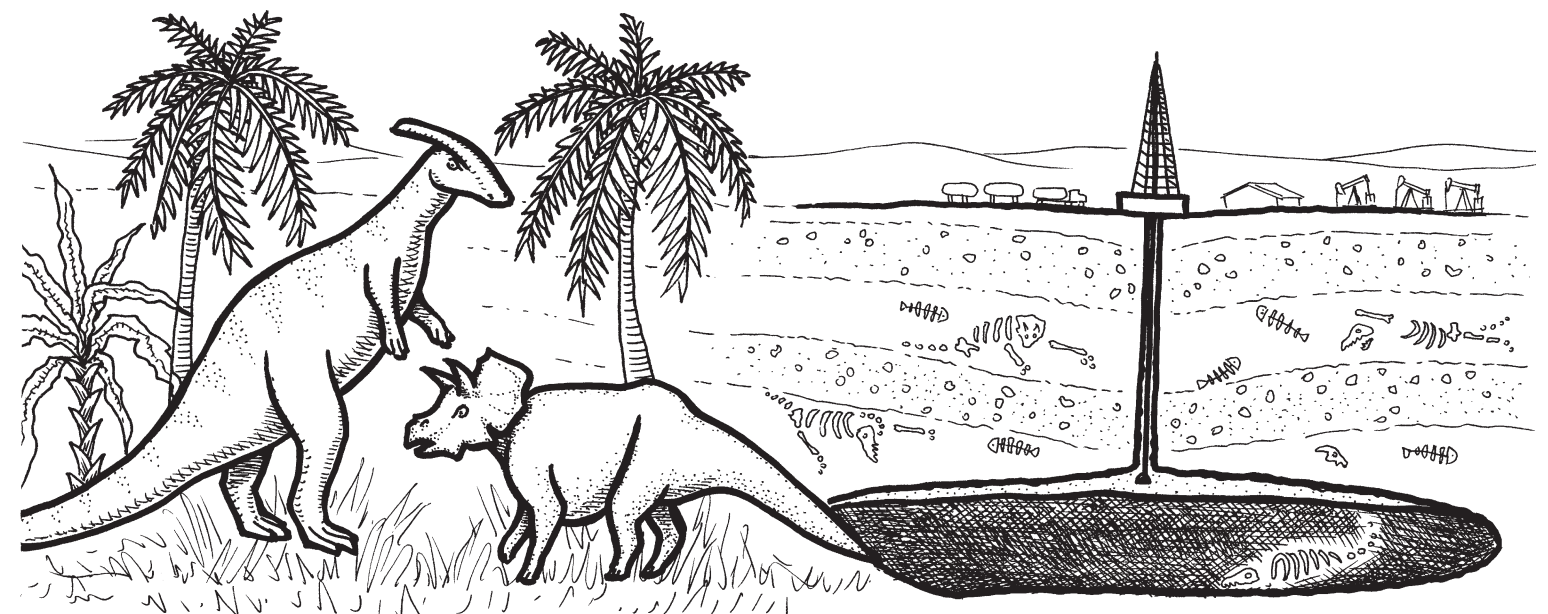
**We use** oil to make so many things—gasoline, computers, plastic, makeup, even clothing. **We are close to hitting that Peak Oil limit—we must start now using less oil.** But how? Here are a few easy ways *you* can help:

- Ride you bike to school, the library, stores, soccer games
- Bring water/juice in reusable containers
- Combine errands to use less fuel
- Use less plastic (It’s made from oil!!!)
- Shop at Farmers’ Markets (or even grow some of your own food!) to cut down on trucking fuel

**What will you do? What other ways can you think of to use less oil?**



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“How did the oil get in the ground?” I asked.

My dad said, “65 million years ago, back when the dinosaurs died out, dead plants and animals were covered by layers and layers of soil; all that weight compressed these once-living organisms, turning them into oil.”

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