

# High Weald Energy Story

## Activity Resources:

### Journey of a woodchip



Education Resource

Take Care Of - Explore - Enjoy - Find Out About - Be Proud Of - Your Local Landscape

Biomass is a fuel from any recently living organism. The form most readily available in the UK is chipped wood. This can be from woodland 'lop and top', purpose grown coppice or green wood residues from sawmills. Use these cards to follow the journey of a woodchip...

#### 1. Wood is renewable



Burning woodfuel is environmentally friendly. It is a carbon neutral process i.e. the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> released when wood is burned is no greater than the CO<sub>2</sub> absorbed by the tree when it is growing.

#### 2. Coppicing



Trees are cut down to their base called a "stool" and new shoots develop as long straight poles. Harvesting takes place on a rotational basis of 15 to 20 years.

#### 3. Stacked in woodpiles



The wood is stacked in woodpiles to season (dry-out) usually between 9 to 12 months.

#### 4. Chipping machine



When the wood has a moisture content of less than 35% the chipping machine is used to produce woodchips.

#### 5. Woodchips or logs



#### 6. Biomass boiler



Woodchips/logs are burnt to produce energy e.g. for heating homes and offices.

