

Radiation Sources in Our Community-Teacher Answer Key

NOTE: Responses are not limited to those listed below.

Sources of Radiation	Location(s)	Non-Ionizing, Ionizing Radiation or Both
Ultraviolet (UV) light	Outdoors, hospitals, tanning salons and certain jobs (e.g., welding or research)	Sun, medical uses and certain jobs: Both Tanning beds: Non-ionizing
Security scanners	Airports, courthouses and other buildings	Ionizing
Computed tomography (CT) scanners	Hospitals, clinics, medical/digital imaging diagnostic labs, and some veterinary offices	Ionizing
Cosmic radiation	Airplanes and outdoors	Ionizing
Electric and magnetic fields (EMF) from power lines	Near power lines and in all buildings with electrical devices and electrical outlets	Non-ionizing
Antique clocks and watches that glow in the dark	Homes, antique stores and flea markets	Ionizing
Radon	Outdoors and in some buildings; radon may also be encountered through drinking water and soil	Ionizing
Tritium exit signs	Many commercial and public buildings, as well as landfills	Ionizing
Ionizing smoke detectors	Many homes, schools and commercial and public buildings	Ionizing. Ionizing smoke detectors use a small amount of radioactive material to detect smoke. Photoelectric smoke detectors use a light source.
Radioactive waste from abandoned uranium mines	Water, buildings, soil and the air may be contaminated by radioactive waste	Ionizing
Wireless technology	Many homes, commercial and public buildings	Non-ionizing
Nuclear moisture and density gauges	Construction sites	Ionizing
Cigarettes/radiation in tobacco	Homes or designated smoking areas	Ionizing; naturally-occurring radioactive minerals accumulate on tobacco leaves