

LEARN TO LOVE NATURE

JUNGLES EDUCATOR GUIDE

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Direct students to watch the [Our Planet Jungles episode](#) on YouTube.
OR discuss the Earth's jungle habitats on a class call, and show the [Jungles biome tour](#) on ourplanet.com to fuel a class discussion on the characteristics and importance of tropical forest ecosystems to people, the wildlife and the planet. Tips for using videos to prompt constructive discussions can be found in the [Our Planet Their Future Educator's Guide \(PDF\)](#).
2. Direct students to watch '[How to Save Our Jungles](#)', on ourplanet.com, narrated by Sir David Attenborough.
3. Direct students to spend some time visiting the Jungles biome on our [explorable globe](#). Students should then use the information in the video above and collected from the interactive globe to complete the questions and tasks below. **Suggested answers are included in this version.**

Jungles Worksheet - Answers

Use the *How Save Our Jungles* video clip to help you find the answers to the following questions.

1. List four reasons why Jungles are essential to the healthy functioning of our planet:

- They regulate global weather
- The clouds they create reflect the sun's heat, helping to cool the planet.
- They generate vast amounts of water which is circulated around the globe.
- Their ability to remove carbon from the atmosphere helps to fight climate change.

2. A) What other resources do jungles provide? B) What characteristic of jungles makes them such a wonderful resource?

a)

- Extraordinary foods
- Hardwoods
- Medicines

b) Their biodiversity

3. Complete the sentence below to demonstrate the variety of life that exists in our planet's jungles:

Jungles are home to over **half of all the species that live on land.**

4. Explain, in a short paragraph, why clearing just one patch of jungle damages a whole jungle's ability to function. Use the following words in your explanation:

- Variety
- Interacting
- Microworlds

Each patch of jungle is home to an extraordinary variety of plants and animals. There are many unique microworlds and each of these microworlds is connected to its neighbours, all continuously interacting to keep the entire jungle working. Each patch that is lost therefore damages a jungle's ability to function and reduces its capacity to help maintain the health of our planet.

5. Why don't we have to clear any more jungle?

We've already cleared enough to grow all the food and timber our future population will ever need.

6. Give some examples below of how different innovators around the world are using land smartly to protect our jungles:

- Pulp and paper companies are regenerating degraded land to plant fast-growing super-efficient plantations.
- These companies are restoring the jungles around their plantations.
- Some palm oil producers are making use of degraded lands in Borneo and leaving the jungles standing.

7. What are the benefits of this new mosaic system of using existing cleared land to farm efficient crops, re-planting new jungles and protecting remaining jungles?

- The new jungles retain more water and prevent fires which helps the crops.
- They also act as vital corridors for jungle life.

8. List some of the sustainable ways we can use jungles:

- We can carefully extract a few hardwoods by imitating nature and felling the right tree at the right time and removing it in the right way.
- Crops can be planted and harvested beneath the jungle canopy without the need to clear forests.
- Eco-tourism can help communities and individuals make a living from standing jungles whilst reducing unregulated clearing of forests.

9. How can we as individuals help make a difference on a global scale?

We can demand to know whether our products have caused the destruction of jungles to send a clear message to suppliers that we'll only accept products that are deforestation-free.

10. How can governments play a part in protecting our jungles?

By financially rewarding tropical nations for locking away carbon within the trees of their jungles.

LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/biodiversity/>

Ensuring a healthy and productive future for our grasslands also contributes to other SDG goals, including the following:

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

GOAL 13: Climate Action

DISCUSSION PROMPTS

Use these prompts to generate a class or small group discussion online based on the Forests episode of Our Planet, or videos on ourplanet.com.

Have you ever spent time in a forest or woodland? What did you do in the woodlands? What was special about the place? If they have not done so, would you like to visit a forest? Why? Allow the young people to begin by discussing their own experiences and impressions.

Imagine you are in the jungle. What is this place like? What are some of the sounds that you might hear here? What might you see here? What would it feel like? Would you like to visit the jungle? Why? To create a relaxed group setting, give young people time to talk together in pairs, before sharing their thoughts with the whole group.

Why are forests important? Encourage young people to come up with as many ideas as they can. Many foods and medicines come from jungles, they clean the air we breathe, they regulate the earth's climate, they are home to millions of plant and animal species, as well as millions of people.

What animals, plants and insects may live in forest or jungle? Mammals such as lemur, bear, deer, squirrels, raccoons, badgers etc. Minibeasts like butterflies, beetles, spiders, flies, bees, wasps etc. Birds such as nuthatch, rooks, eagles, great hornbill etc. Amphibians such as newts, reptiles such as snakes etc. Plants such as ivy, wildflowers, bracken etc. Fungi and lichens, and of course trees!

Think of all the ways that forests have touched your life today. What have you used that comes from a forest? Encourage young people to come up with as many ideas as they can, including furniture, building materials for floors, doors and window frames, fruits, paper, tissues, clean air, pencils, toys, musical instruments, boats, medicines, fences, lollipop sticks, rulers – the list goes on!

What does the ice cream that you get from the supermarket have to do with the future of orangutans? This question gives the opportunity to look at the impact of deforestation. With younger young people it may help to provide extra clues by writing the following flash cards: palm oil, orangutan, jungle, ice cream, plantation. Ask young people what the links between the cards are.

What threats are forests and jungles facing? Clearing for farming land and housing, fragmentation, logging for timber, increased noise and light pollution from human settlements.

What can we do to protect the jungles and forests? At this point it is important to give young people the chance to think about the importance of sustainability and preserving forests for future generations. We can all think carefully about how we use forests. Small steps, such as saving paper, can make a big difference. Any wood or paper bought for school or home should be FSC.

Helping local communities to care for and protect the rainforests. It is important to help young people understand that they can do something about the challenges that our planet faces. Buying sustainable palm oil products and telling parents, shopkeepers and others in their community why

EXTENSION ACTIVITY IDEAS

KS2-3

Activity Idea	Subjects
Create a collage display from magazines and materials showing all the everyday products and benefits that we get from forests and jungles on one side, and all the wildlife that depend on forests and jungles for their survival on the other.	Art Geography Science
Carry out a 'sensory walk' in a woodland , with young people closing their eyes to experience the woodland through the other senses, guided by a partner. They should be encouraged to close their eyes or put on a loose blindfold and explore the textures, smells, sounds and feel of the environment. Discuss afterwards if they noticed anything that they had not before.	Outdoor learning Geography Science
Explore a woodland or forest with a notepad and/or camera and try to identify as many different species as possible.	Science Geography Outdoor learning

Identify different tree species in a woodland and explore the differences between them. Make bark rubbings, outlines of leaf shapes, seed types and field sketches to illustrate how they are similar and different. Discuss why the trees may be so different, and how their different characteristics may help them in different ways.	Art Science
Make a diorama of a jungle habitat.	Art
Recreate the sights and sounds of a forest or jungle using dance, voice and percussion.	Music
Write a riddle about a jungle animal. Think about where the animal lives, how it moves, what it eats and its size, colour etc. What makes this animal special? Read the riddle out and see if others can guess the animal.	Literacy Science

KS3-4

Activity Idea	Subjects
<p>Jungle Species Research Project</p> <p>Tropical rainforests are incredibly diverse. Research the animals that live in Tropical Rainforests. You may want to focus on a particular area, for example the Amazon, the Congo, Borneo, Costa Rica. For each species you research, create a fact file. Aim to research at least 4 species. You might like to watch this biome tour for inspiration! How many species do you recognise?</p> <p>You should try to include the following in each fact-file:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of species • Image of species – This can be drawn, printed or copied and pasted. • Endangered status – Use the IUCN website to help you • Habitat – Include a map and highlight the regions where this species can be found. • Adaptations to habitat – Label your image of the species to show how it is adapted to live in tropical climates • Diet – Draw a food chain showing how the species fits into a tropical forest ecosystem • Threats to populations – Include both natural and human inflicted threats <p>Stuck? Take a look at our WWF species fact sheets here to give you an idea of what yours could look like!</p>	<p>Biology Geography</p>

<p>Eco-Tourism Advertisement</p> <p>Watch this short clip on eco-tourism in Costa Rica and design a series of Social Media or online advertisements to encourage people to visit tropical rainforests in a sustainable way.</p> <p>You should consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your target audience. • What information to include in your post to demonstrate how your business is eco-friendly. • What images are most likely to encourage people to visit tropical rainforests. <p>Design an advert suitable for each of the following platforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facebook • Twitter (140 characters and an image) • Instagram (Which #hashtags might increase post views?) • An online eco-tourism website (A web page gives you more room for a detailed description of the benefits of eco-tourism) 	<p>English Media Business/Marketing Studies</p>
<p>Design and cook a sustainable, deforestation free meal! Visit WWF.com for tips on sustainable eating.</p> <p>Design brief: To design and make a tasty main meal product using only sustainable products and ingredients.</p> <p>You will need to avoid ingredients that contain things like unsustainable palm oil and ensure that if you include meat or fish in your dish it is sustainably produced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First, design and label your dish. Ensure to include a list of ingredients and where you are sourcing them. • Next, write out your method/recipe so that you're able to share it with others! • Lastly, cook and enjoy your sustainable planet-friendly dish! <p>Extension: Why not make it a three-course meal? Plan a starter and dessert dish using the same brief. Or have a go at planning out a sustainable weekly menu that avoids palm-oil.</p>	<p>Food Technology</p>
<p>Write a formal and persuasive letter to a food company explaining why you will only be buying deforestation-free products in the future and the benefits of companies labelling their products with this information.</p> <p>Remember to use formal language and a range of persuasive techniques (emotive language, rhetorical questions, statistics</p>	<p>English</p>

and facts, direct address, lists of three etc) to help to make your letter compelling. Aim to write at least half a side to a side of A4.

You should try and cover:

- Why we need to protect our tropical rainforests for our planet to survive.
- Why there is no need to clear more forest
- Sustainable ways of farming and using the jungle's resources
- How consumers can be made aware of what they are buying.