

PEOPLE & TREES

Teacher Discussion Guide

LEVELS

Grades 4-5

SUBJECTS

Science
Social Studies
Language Arts
Visual Arts

CONCEPTS

People use ingenuity and innovation to make the best use of available resources.

To sustain the availability and use of important resources, people practice conservation.

Human consumption patterns affect the availability of resources.

To meet the needs of an expanding human population, societies practice resource management and employ technology.

SKILLS

Analyzing
Data Gathering
Discussing
Interpreting
Representing
Researching

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OVERVIEW

Since the beginning of time, people have used trees to build shelter, as a source of food, to provide heat and for recreation.

Over time, increasing populations have created an increased demand for forest products. Although trees are a renewable resource, to meet this increased demand people have developed new technologies and new products that increase efficiencies and maximize the productive use of each tree harvested.

DISCUSSION AND STUDY TOPICS

The use of trees can be studied in the context of many different areas of learning. Here are some suggestions:

Science

- **Papermaking.** What kinds of fiber other than wood can be used to make paper? (*class experiment, research project*)
- **Energy from wood.** Is wood a good conductor of heat? Do different types of wood give off different amounts of heat? Why? Which types of wood are the best to burn for heat? (*research project, class presentation*)
- **Forest growth.** How are different types of trees regenerated? How does climate affect tree growth? (*research project, class presentation*)
- **Resources.** What is the difference between a renewable and a non-renewable resource? What are some examples of each? What renewable and non-renewable resources do we use every day? (*research project, class activity, class presentation*)

Social Studies

- **Uses of wood.** How has the use of wood changed through history? How do people use wood in other parts of the world -- for fuel, for shelter, to create art? (*essay topic, art project, research project*)
- **Wood and paper products.** What products have you used today that are made from wood, wood fiber or wood chemicals? What forest products are present in the classroom, at home? (*essay topic, class presentation, class activity*)

In addition to providing beauty and recreation, forests supply raw materials to help meet society's needs for housing, paper, containers and thousands of other products used by consumers every day. As one of the country's leading forest products providers, Georgia-Pacific Corporation has a long-term interest in and commitment to the health of our nation's forests.

Educational in Nature® is a series of environmental education curriculum supplements designed to foster understanding and environmental awareness for your students.

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Activity Sheet

"A WAY WITH WORDS"

How many words can you make out of **Educational in Nature**?

For example: **LATE** or **CLEAN**



WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble each group of letters to find different ways trees are used.

1. dofo

2. lrtehes

3. ppera

4. urnebl

5. notceerira

6. ttonronrsptaia

7. lfeu

8. nlgchoti

9. otosl

10. odlpyow

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Answers to Word Scramble: 1. food 2. shelter 3. paper 4. lumber 5. recreation 6. transportation 7. fuel 8. clothing 9. tools 10. plywood