

Activity 1 Handout

Young Forest



Part 1: Harvest

1

Why do we harvest trees from the forest? Check out some of the following resources to learn how people use trees. Name three wood products produced in Alberta? Wood products are also used in other unique ways, what is an interesting use that you found? Optional: Take a bingo sheet home and see if you can get a bingo!

workwild.ca/classroom-resources/lesson-plan/grade-7-interactions-and-ecosystems

albertaforestproducts.ca/about/products-and-manufacturing

natural-resources.canada.ca/forest-forestry/forest-industry-trade/wood-products-everywhere-everyone

2

Before a harvest, forestry companies must have a plan. How long does it take to create that plan? How often is it renewed?

3

What are some examples of things that are considered in a forest management plan?

4

A forest management plan in Alberta looks 200 years in the future. Why is it important to look so far ahead?

Activity 1 Handout Continued

Part 2: Reforestation

1

Why do forest companies replant the trees that have been harvested?

2

How many trees are planted for each tree harvested?

3

Do you know which tree species are harvested in Alberta and how are they used? Use some of the following resources to learn about common tree species in Alberta. List at least 3 different tree species and their uses.

[Guide of Common Native Trees and Shrubs \(PDF\)](#)

tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees

4

How long do forestry companies monitor the growth of seedlings in a young forest?

5

Visit workwild.ca/careers/planning-forester-rpf-forest-technologist-rpft to learn more about planning foresters and forest technologists. These foresters go to school to learn about how to manage and properly use a forest. What education do planning foresters and forest technologists need?

6

As we learned on the Love Alberta Forests website, Tracey Courser is a Forester, specifically a planning superintendent. Visit the link below to learn about Brianne, another planning forester. Based on what you have learned from these two foresters and your own thoughts, why is it important for people to understand forests and forestry in Alberta?

workwild.ca/career-spotlight/brianne

Activity 1 Handout Continued

Part 3: Young Forest Ecosystem

1

Young forest provides habitat for different plant and animal species than older forests. What is the major factor that affects the plants and animals found in young forests?

2

In forest ecosystems, some deciduous trees like trembling aspen don't need to be replanted by people after events like harvesting or forest fires. These trees can regenerate naturally on their own!

Research how these trees come back to life after a disturbance.

3

Aspen trees are important for our forest ecosystem, but they grow so quickly that they can crowd out slower-growing conifers like spruce and pine.

Research and list three ways foresters help conifers grow when aspen trees are outcompeting them.

For each method, explain:

- What foresters do
- How it helps the conifers

Hint: Think about what young trees need to grow - sunlight, water, nutrients, and space!

4

What is edge habitat?

5

Give an example of an animal species that is drawn to young forest or edge habitat. Why?