



LESSON SUMMARY

To give students an opportunity to become aware of and describe some of the jobs that depend on the forest.

Activity Information

Estimated Duration: 45 minutes to 1 hour

Materials: Paper, pencils, coloured pencils, tape recorder (optional).

Setting: Indoors or Outdoors

Key Vocabulary: Vocabulary related to specific occupations.



Teacher Background

Roughly 187,000 Ontarians have jobs related directly or indirectly to forest industries. Of these, more than 60,000 are employed in the wood products or pulp and paper industries. An additional 6,200 have jobs in wood harvesting. The remaining 121,000 jobs are indirectly supported by the forest industry.

Some of the jobs related to the forest are: planners and administrators, technicians, machine operators, cutters, truck drivers, wildlife biologists, conservation officers, park interpreters, research scientists, and nursery workers.

ACTIVITY

- Step 1** Ask your students to describe and draw pictures of foresters. Share some of these pictures with the class. Explain that foresters come in many different shapes and sizes (male, female, young, old, technical, professional). Explain that not all foresters are lumberjacks, and vice versa. Many jobs are indirectly related to the forest (e.g. forest industry accountants and manufacturers of equipment used to harvest and process trees or make pulp and paper.)
- Step 2** Brainstorm a list of values and uses of the forest. List these on one side of the board. Then ask about what jobs might be related to this list of uses and values. Ask how many students have family and relatives that work in one of these types of jobs. Ask what would happen to these people and to the students if forests are not managed wisely.

Extension

As a class, prepare a directory of forestry personnel (can be obtained through your local Ministry of Natural Resources office). Include the job description, responsibilities, and education required.

Have your students pretend they are forest managers who must hire some new personnel. Have them prepare a classified advertisement outlining the job description and the desired qualifications of prospective employees.

Ask students to choose a forestry career that interests them and prepare a list of questions they would like to ask someone in that position.

Give students an opportunity to learn more about the career they have chosen:

Arrange telephone interviews with professionals. With the permission of the person interviewed, consider taping the calls and playing them for the rest of the class. Alternatively, have pairs of students conduct the telephone interviews. Make sure they write down the answers to their interview questions. Print these in a forestry careers booklet. Invite forestry, nursery, or park personnel to visit and talk to the class about their jobs.

Play Career Charades. Make a deck of forest career cards (small cards with the name and picture of a forestry career printed on them). Divide students into two teams and have one student from each team select a card. Have the student act out the job or career while other students on that team try to guess what it is. Time each team. Repeat several times or until each student has had a chance at role-playing.

The Forest Connection

People work in a variety of occupations and careers. A surprising number of them are related to the forest industry.

Ask parents about their work.

Talk about: what they do, tools they use, products they make, products they use, special clothes or equipment they need. How is the parent's work related to the forest industry?

Bring something to class and show the connection. Explain the connection to your class.

Make a web using all of the objects collected. Display.

What would you like to do when you grow up? Make a job web to show how your career might be related to the forest industry.

Do any of your relatives work directly in the forest industry? Invite them to talk about their jobs. What questions will you ask them?

The Career Center

Let's look at jobs and occupations in the forest industry. There are many different jobs employing over 270,000 people in:

- Pulp and allied industries
- Solid wood products
- Logging
- Christmas trees
- Maple syrup

Another 540,000 jobs are found in support services.

Make a column for each of the five forest industries. Find the jobs listed below that belong to each of the industries. Classify them. Can you think of other jobs to add to each column?

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Silviculturist | Administrator |
| Tree planter | Planner |
| Control panel operator | Contractor |
| Labourer | Grader-operator |
| Feller-buncher operator | Faller |
| Forester | Bucker |
| Choker | Logger |
| Truck driver | Engineer |
| Helicopter pilot | |

Have students look in the classified section of the local paper and identify jobs that are directly connected to the forest industry. They may choose one job, find out about the skills needed to do that job and be prepared to be interviewed by the class.

Many people are employed in support services to assist the pulp and paper industry in carrying out its work – an airplane pilot who helps control the spruce budworm or a forest fire during a protection program, or the person who plants seeds to produce new trees. Have students choose a job that is indirectly related to the forest industry and draw a picture that shows how it is related. Have them explain their picture to the class.