

HEADING 4



TREES BEING CUT DOWN

TOP, a forest in Sumatra Indonesia clear cut to make a palm oil plantation; MIDDLE, logging trucks with cut timber from the rainforest; BOTTOM, children collecting firewood in Africa



Add Sidebar Content

Adding content into a column to create a sidebar is no different from adding text. As noted earlier in this template, apply the styles provided for headings, sidebar text, and even pictures to align them quickly and easily.

FAST FACTS ON DEFORESTATION

47%

Of forest that the African country of Burundi has lost

20%

Of the earth's oxygen is made in the Amazon forest



Saving Our Trees

by Amy Lee

Forests cover about 30% of our world. Rainforest once covered 14% of the earth, now they are only 6%. Trees can grow back, but that takes time, and we're cutting them down faster than they can regrow.

Our forests are almost gone. This year, more than 3,850,000 hectares of forest will be cut down. That's the same size as 7 million football fields, or the country of Belgium.

WHY ARE OUR FORESTS BEING LOST OR CUT DOWN?

✓ **Farming and agriculture**

As the world population gets bigger, farmers need more and more land to grow crops to feed people and animals

✓ **Bio fuels**

Bio fuels such as ethanol, soy and palm oil are used in food, beauty products and as gas for cars so forests are cleared to make biofuel plantations

✓ **Logging for wood products**

Trees are cut down for wood to make products used in construction, and for paper, furniture, boats, and etc...

✓ **Building roads and houses**

More people means we need more space for people to live. Forests are cut down to make roads and houses

✓ **Fuel for cooking**

Poor people in many countries have to use wood from trees in order to make cooking fires and to heat their houses

✓ **Mining**

Many forests are full of minerals like gold, diamonds and copper, so trees are cut down in order to dig up the minerals

✓ **Fires**

Fires burn down huge areas of forest, some caused naturally by lightning, but some caused by people burning down trees to clear land



WHY ARE OUR FORESTS IMPORTANT?

Trees are extremely important to the world. Forests are the lungs of the world, they make and clean the air that we breathe. More reasons we need trees:

- 🌍 Forests help fight against climate change by catching and storing carbon so that it doesn't become a greenhouse gas and make the world hotter
- 🌍 Trees help to keep the soil together. Soil is important to grow plants, if it disappears, the land becomes desert
- 🌍 Forests help to collect, clean and keep fresh water so that it doesn't all go back into the ocean, and gives it back to plants and animals to use
- 🌍 Forests collecting water protects areas from flooding by holding water in the soil
- 🌍 Trees make shade and keep things cool by putting water into the air as vapor
- 🌍 Scientists have found cures for diseases in the plants that come from rainforests
- 🌍 Many things we eat, such as fruits, nuts and syrups come from trees
- 🌍 Forests are important for jobs for people collecting wood, plant products and materials to make medicine



FORESTS ARE HOMES

Forests are the home for 90% of the world's plant, animal and microorganism species, and also the home of some native peoples. Losing forests means many plants and animals, like the baby orangutan above, become extinct.

ONCE TREES ARE CUT DOWN OR BURNED, THEY AND ALL THE WILDLIFE THAT LIVE IN THEM ARE USUALLY LOST FOREVER

How you can help!

Trees can bring people together!

The World Student Championship is a project to bring school children from around the world together to help regrow forests, and do something to help the earth.

The competition will support projects to replant forests that have been cut or burned down, to preserve and keep safe existing trees, and to grow fruit and nut trees for food.

Here is your chance to get creative!

Your class is challenged to compete with other classes around the world to raise the most money to support a reforestation project from a developing country.

Have bake sales, do small jobs, put on a play and sell tickets, make a book to sell, whatever inspires your class! Show your creativity!

Learn more about reforestation:

An example of the projects to be supported by the project: <http://www.edenprojects.org>

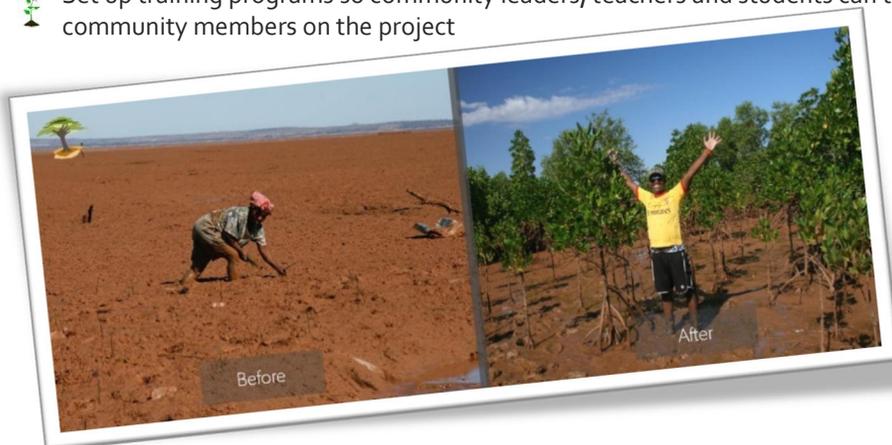


What you will be supporting

The schools raising the most money will be paired with a school in a developing country, and may get to travel there to meet other students and plant trees together.

The money your class raises will be used to:

-  Buy tree seedlings and set up plant nurseries
-  Buy tools and equipment to use for tree planting
-  Support and train communities in tree planting projects
-  Support local plant nurseries to provide food for communities
-  Educate, encourage and enable local people to become guardians of their forests and the wildlife that live in the forests
-  Set up training programs so community leaders, teachers and students can train other community members on the project



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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