

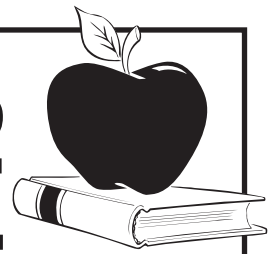
GRADE LEVEL: PreK

ILLINOIS EARLY LEARNING STANDARDS: 12.E.ECb,
15.A.ECa

SKILLS: gaining information, reading, communication

OBJECTIVE: Students will learn that there are many types
of jobs that people do in the forest.

TEACHER'S GUIDE



UNIT THREE ■ LESSON TWO

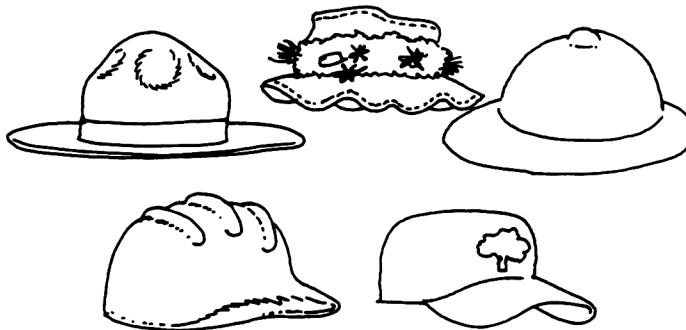
People Who Work in the Woods

BACKGROUND

Many lucky people get to work in the woods. They do a variety of jobs that are important for a lot of different reasons. Most of these jobs require a college education.

The Forests' Best Friends. Forests are large areas of land covered with trees and other plants. Forestry is the part of science that studies how to protect forests and make them productive. Foresters are the scientists who manage forests to keep them healthy and help people understand and use the forest wisely. The main job of foresters is to manage the forest and help trees grow. They measure trees. They fight forest fires and plan how to prevent fires. They decide when it is time to harvest, or cut down, trees. When there is a problem in the forest—when the trees are sick with a disease, when the animals living there do not have enough to eat, when the water has become polluted—foresters find ways to solve the problem.

Forest rangers are the forests' friends, too. Their job is to help people understand



and enjoy the forest. They teach people how to enjoy the forest without hurting it by causing fires, throwing away litter or destroying plants.

The Woods Are Full of "ists." Not all scientists wear

white coats and work with test tubes in laboratories. Many kinds of scientists work in the forest. For them the forest is like a big laboratory. All of these kinds of scientists study special things, and their names all seem to have an "ist" on the end. Botanists study plants. Zoologists study animals. Ornithologists study birds. Herpetologists study snakes and frogs. Entomologists study insects. Ichthyologists study fishes. That's just a few of the "ists" in the woods. Fish and wildlife biologists study and manage the wildlife, especially game species.

At a Nursery. In a hospital a nursery is where a newborn baby stays until he/she goes home. Did you know there are tree nurseries too? People who work in nurseries grow new trees, shrubs and other plants. Trees start from seeds grown in seed beds, sometimes in a special glass building called a greenhouse. Some trees and shrubs are grown from cuttings. Cuttings are small pieces of a branch from a tree or shrub that are used to grow new trees and shrubs. When trees become a little bigger (seedlings), workers transplant them in fields where they have more room to grow. When the seedlings become a little bigger (saplings) they are ready to be transplanted again to their permanent homes—to yards, streets, parks, orchards and even to the forest.

Timber. Many people have jobs in the timber industry. They harvest trees to make wood products and paper. That's right! The paper on your desk came from a tree! People then plant new trees to take the place of the ones that they cut down. It is important that the people in the timber industry are careful because it takes good management to grow trees as a renewable resource.

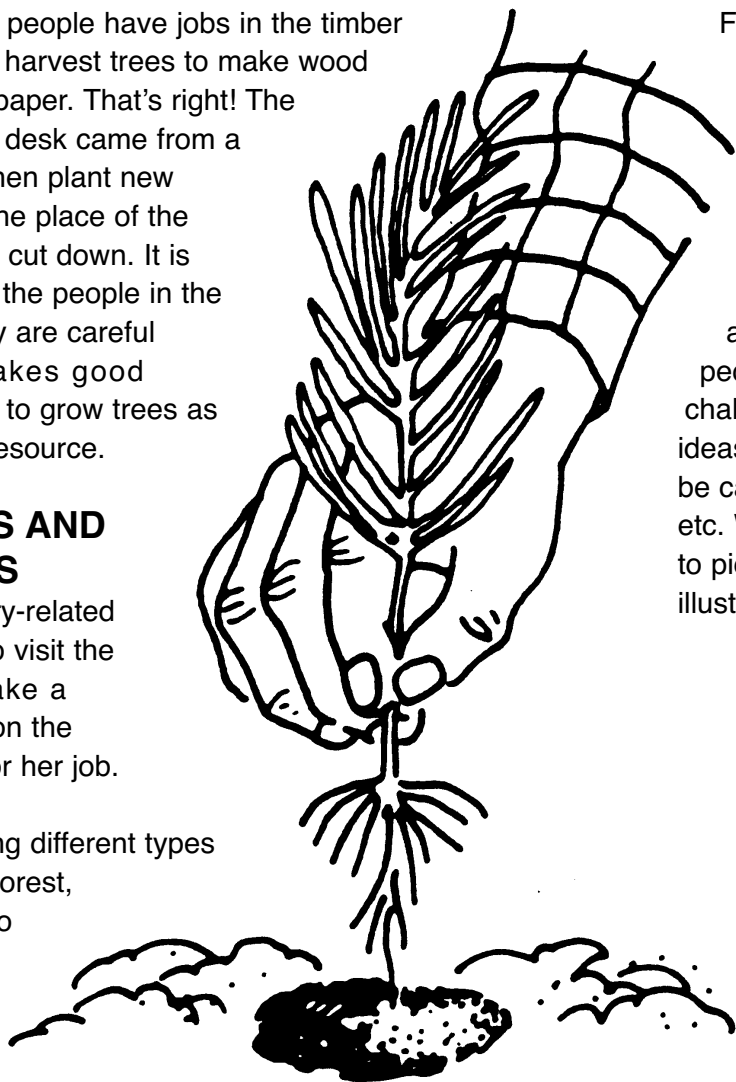
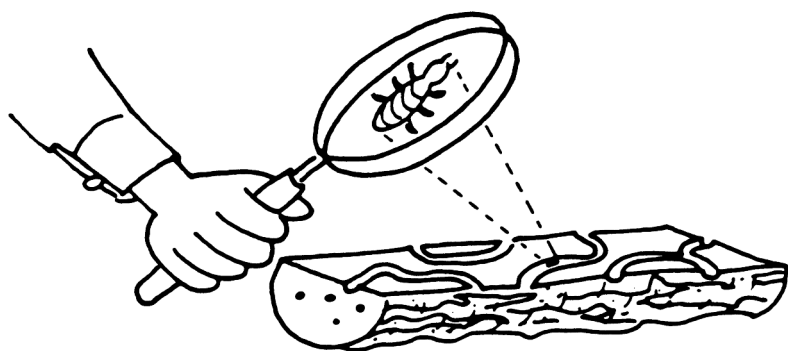
PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Invite a forestry-related professional to visit the class and make a presentation on the nature of his or her job.

After discussing different types of jobs in the forest, ask students to think about what their favorite forest job

would be.

Students should draw a picture pertaining to his or her ideal forest job and be prepared to present it to the class and explain the job. Discuss some of the specialized scientists who work in the woods—biologists, zoologists, herpetologists and others. Have the class create names for some new, highly specialized “ologists.” What might they call a scientist who studies hollow trees? Or a scientist who studies tadpoles? Or a scientist who studies owls? Encourage students to make up their own “ologists.”



Forest rangers teach people how to protect the forest. Foresters and Conservation Police Officers also protect the forest by making sure timber is not illegally cut and that special plant and animal populations are not removed or harmed. Start a class discussion on ways that people can protect the forest. On the chalkboard keep a list of the students' ideas which might include: don't litter; be careful with fire; don't harm plants, etc. When you have a list, ask students to pick one idea and draw a picture that illustrates it.



EVALUATION

Have each student visit the school library or public library to find and read a book about people who work in the woods or a book that features someone who works with trees. Have each student share his/her book with the class.

VOCABULARY:

botanist	ornithologist
cutting	productive
entomologist	renewable
forester	resource
forestry	sapling
game	seedling
greenhouse	timber industry
harvest	transplant
herpetologist	wildlife biologist
ichthyologist	zoologist
management	

People Who Work in the Woods

STUDENT'S GUIDE

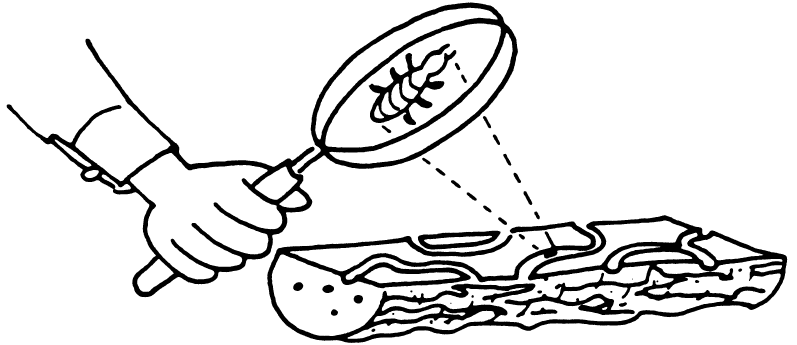
Many people have jobs in the woods.

The Forest's Best Friends

Foresters study the forest and protect it.

In the Forest, Lots of Scientists Study Lots of Things.

They study plants. They study bugs. They even study fish.



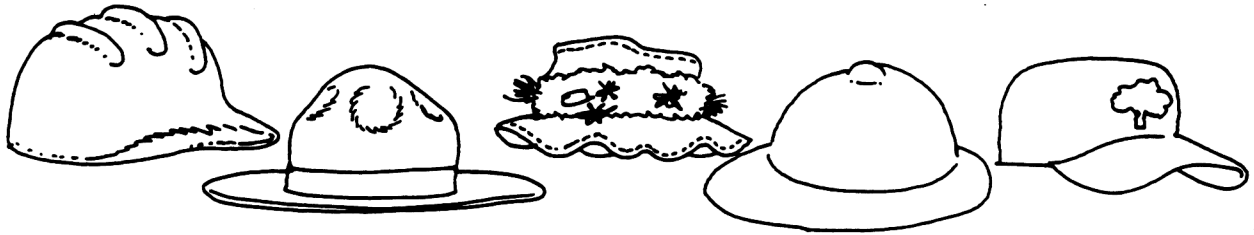
At the Nursery

People who work in nurseries grow new trees. They may start with a tiny seed. When the tree is big enough, they move it to a new home.

Timber!

Cutting down trees is a big job. Trees must be cut to make paper, houses and furniture. Planting new trees is a big job, too. Planting trees helps us to make sure that many trees will be mature in years to come.





Whose Hat is This?

Color these five people who work in the woods. Can you guess what their jobs are? Color their hats and cut them out. See if you can put the hats on the right people.

