

Science
Helping the wilderness
Book: Caring for our environment
Pages 12-21

Students: Fill in the answers and return for assessment

Everything here is based on our Curriculum Visions book Caring for our environment.

In this segment, we are going to learn how to manage the wilderness in order to protect and conserve nature.

You will need to go to pages 6-7 of the book.

Part 1

How is a plantation different from a natural forest? How does this affect the plants and animals that live there?

Answer ...

A plantation only has one type of tree, planted in rows. Plantations take nutrients from the soil but do not put them back in so the soil become less fertile; the spacing of the trees and the lack of variation in plants prevents animals and birds from using the trees in the plantation.

Now turn to pages 14-15 of the book.

Part 2

Why do you think it takes so long to return cleared land to a wilderness?

Answer ...

Students' own answers. Answers could include because it takes time for trees and plants to grow and animals to return; because nature needs to be let alone for a long time before it can recover.

Now turn to pages 16-17 of the book.

Part 3

Read the text, then design a small garden that will be good for plants and animals.

Answer ...

Students' own answers.

Now turn to pages 18-19 of the book.

Part 4

What are some ways that farming makes soils poorer? How can farmers prevent this?

Answer ...

Farming takes everything away, so nutrients aren't returned to the soil. Farmers can plough rotted or unwanted materials into the soil; they can set aside space for animals; they can plant different kinds of crops each year; they can use mulch for weed control; they can use waste from animals as fertiliser, etc.

Now turn to pages 20-21 of the book.

Part 5

Complete the chart. One has been done for you. Which would you prefer - a straightened river or a natural river?

	Straightened river	Natural river
River flow (speed)		
Amount of weeds and water plants		
Amount of food for insects, fish and birds	Very little	A lot
Amount of light and shade		
River bank		

Answer ...

	Straightened river	Natural river
River flow (speed)	Even - all one speed	Fast-flowing areas and slow-flowing areas
Amount of weeds and water plants	Very few	A big variety
Amount of food for insects, fish and birds	Very little	A lot
Amount of light and shade	Very little	A lot

River bank appearance	Steep banks with little vegetation	Varied landscape that is interesting to look at
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Students' own answers.

That is the end of this worksheet, and you can now turn to another one. Also, find out if your teacher has left you any other worksheets or special instructions on your school website.

If you are interested in this topic, continue to browse the book and watch our amazing videos. They start right on the book cover.

Or you may want to see related books. If so just go to the top of the screen, select science, and from the page that opens choose Caring for our environment.