

How to use the “Forest Friendly Schools” set of resources

This series of resources will help you to explain why tropical forests are so important, why deforestation is happening and what you can do to help in your school. They are designed to be taught in the order below but can be dipped into for different topics, ages and abilities.

Relevant “Statements of what matters”:

“Our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions.”

“Informed, self-aware citizens engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity, and are able to take considered and ethical action.”

“The world around us is full of living things which depend on each other for survival.”

Name of Resource	Description	Suitable for	Suggested activities
Elon the Elephant	A simple story introducing the problem of deforestation	All primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the story and discuss why the trees might be being cut down. • Elon makes a difference, despite being young and small. How could we all use our voice to make a difference?
Help to save the rainforests with Elon the Elephant.	A Powerpoint explaining simply why rainforests are important, one reason they’re being destroyed and what we can do to	Reception upwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go through the PowerPoint and find out where the tropical forests are, the animals that live in them and where Elon lives. (Find the answers in the teachers notes on the slides) • Discover that in the Congo rainforest trees are being cut down to grow cocoa and make chocolate.

	help.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how buying Fairtrade chocolate can help. • Choose from the activities of making and sharing a poster about Fairtrade, finding out if your school's desserts use fairtrade chocolate and making a Fairtrade dessert.
Forest risk commodity cards	A series of cards explaining the risks of different forest commodities	Year 3 up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read about the different forest risk commodities as a class • Give able readers a commodity each to find out about in a group • Assign each year group a different commodity to find out about. • Use together with our Deforestation Detectives resources.
Deforestation Detectives 1	A Powerpoint explaining how growing palm oil can cause deforestation.	Year 2 and up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out all about palm oil and what it is found in. • Learn how palm oil can be grown sustainably • Go on a hunt looking for products that contain palm oil.
Deforestation Detectives 2	A Powerpoint exploring other commodities that cause deforestation including beef and soy.	Key Stage 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the PowerPoint to explore the different commodities that cause deforestation. • With younger learners, teachers can read through and explain the impact of the different forest commodities. • Older/able learners can take part in the marketplace activity where their group becomes an expert on one forest commodity and share their learning.
Forest friendly meal checker quiz	A quiz that asks a series of questions to determine how forest	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the google quiz as a class to find out how forest friendly a school meal is. • Give groups a different school meal each to

	friendly (or not) a school meal is.		<p>investigate using the quiz.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are unsure of any ingredients or where they are sourced, try and find out from your catering staff.
Design your own forest friendly meal	A powerpoint that revisits forest risk commodities and uses the example of the Wampis breakfast scheme to inspire.	Year 2 up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out about the Wampis breakfast scheme and discuss positive changes you could make to your own school menu. • Pick your favourite school meal and think about how you could make it more forest friendly. • Design a forest friendly meal and make it if possible. • As a challenge, cost up your forest friendly ingredients and compare the price in different shops. • Invite classes to taste your meals, exchange recipes and share with your school catering team.
Write to your local council	Sign our letter to your local council to encourage them to source foods that don't cause deforestation.	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign our letter and send it to your local council. • Add your own thoughts, ideas, drawings and pictures about why it is so important that your school's meals are forest friendly. You could include your suggestions of meals you've created.