

Farm To Market: Lumber

Assessment of Prior Knowledge:

- Brainstorm as many products as you can that come from trees. Don't forget paper products!
- How do people work to try to protect trees and forests? Why do trees and forests need our help?

Vocabulary:

Lumber: Wood that has been cut into boards, planks and other convenient pieces.

Tree Ring: A layer of wood on a tree trunk that represents one year's growth.

Lumber Mill: The place where logs and trees are cut into lumber.

Conservation: The official care and protection of natural resources, such as the forest.

Seedling: A young tree grown from a seed.

Comprehension Questions:

Trees

1. How are trees in the forest felled, or cut down?
2. Explain how tree rings can tell stories about the life of a tree.

Lumber Mill

1. How are workers at the lumber mill careful not to waste any part of the trees that are cut down?
2. What do they do with the scraps and the sawdust?

Baseball Bat

1. How do the bat makers make sure that the baseball bat has a balanced and even shape?

Conservation

1. How many seedlings are planted for every tree that is cut down?
2. How do trees reproduce themselves in the forest?
3. Why do people grow seedlings in greenhouses, rather than simply planting tree seeds in the forest?

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is conserving trees important?
2. What kinds of things are people doing to try to save more trees and forests?

Follow-up Activities:

- Students can research different trees, how they look and where they grow. Then they can learn about the kinds of lumber each tree produces: the traits of the tree's wood and how that wood is used by humans.
- Discuss ways students can conserve wood products such as paper. How does recycling help to reduce the number of trees that are cut down? Try to start a recycling program in your classroom or your school by placing recycling boxes in spaces and then organizing the pick up of the boxes.



The Phoenix Learning Group, Inc.

2349 Chaffee Drive, St. Louis, Mo 63146
314-569-0211 FAX: 314-569-2834 800-221-1274
www.phoenixlearninggroup.com