

CHF
Trees for Life



Lesson 7: Trees for Life!

Description

1x40 minute lessons

Trees are an important resource for the earth and humankind. Trees are essential to a healthy planet and our survival. However, they also play an important role in helping people meet their basic needs. Students will learn how trees can help people in developing countries in a number of ways. They will be shown how trees and wood are essential for meeting daily needs. Students will be encouraged to discuss the balance needed to keep trees growing in order to enjoy their benefits, but also to be able to use them as resource.

Subjects

Mathematics (Grades 1, 2 & 3), Social Studies (Grades 1, 2 & 3), Science and Technology (Grades 1, 2 & 3), Visual Arts (Grades 1, 2 & 3) Health and Physical Education (Grade 1)

See the Curriculum Connections section for detailed links to subjects and expectations.

Materials Needed

Two pieces of flipchart paper or poster board, taped together lengthwise

Pencils

Crayons or colouring pencils

Junior scissors

Student Handout ([BLM 7.1](#)) has a variety of leaf outlines to print out for students so they may cut out and colour.

Pictures from ([BLM 7.2](#)) has two tree outlines to be projected and traced.

Student Handout ([BLM 7.3](#)). Can be projected and read as a class or by teacher.

Slide show ([BLM 7.4](#)) showing wood use.

Note: French BLMs/Student Sheets can be found [here](#).

Lesson Preparation

1. Photocopy enough copies of [BLM 7.1](#) so that students will each have a leaf to cut out. There are four leaves per page which can be shared among two students. The sheets can be cut ahead of time if needed.

2. Project one of the tree outlines from [BLM 7.2](#) onto the flipchart paper or poster board. This can be done with an LCD or overhead projector. Trace the outline of the tree on the flipchart paper with a pencil or marker. Leave the tree outline up in the

classroom. If access to a projector is unavailable, simply draw the outline of a tree on the flipchart paper.

3. Review the Teacher Background Notes and the Teacher Resource folder for Interesting Facts, Country Information, Country Maps, and Resource Section. The resources found under the Country Information can be used to give students further information about the Caribbean, Ghana and Vietnam (such as maps, statistics, flags, histories, etc.).

Teaching/Learning

1. Read the story on the Student Handout with the children (BLM 7.3). This can be projected on the board or photocopied for students to follow along. Promote discussion and questions from the students.
2. After the story, have the class brainstorm a list of all the benefits of trees, including all the things trees give us. Write the answers on the board.
3. Show the wood slideshow (BLM 7.4) to the students. See slideshow notes below if necessary.
4. Once the slideshow is finished, add any new items that may have been missed to the brainstorm list on the board.
5. Have students colour their leaves individually.
6. After the leaves are coloured, students (or the teacher) can write a benefit on each leaf.
7. The leaves will then be stuck on the tree outline. The leaves, once coloured, will display all the benefits and importance of trees.

Slideshow Notes

Slides 1-4: In developing countries, wood is the main source of fuel. Wood is gathered by family members to cook with during the day. When the loads are very big or very heavy, women will carry the wood in a basket on their head. This helps them support the weight.

Slide 5 and 6: Wood is also used for other purposes, like fence building and for homes.

Slide 7: Wood is being used as a fuel source for this open fire to cook meals.

Slide 8: Use this as a slide to transition into the importance of trees. Ask students what this slide might be showing. Who can spot benefits of trees in this picture?

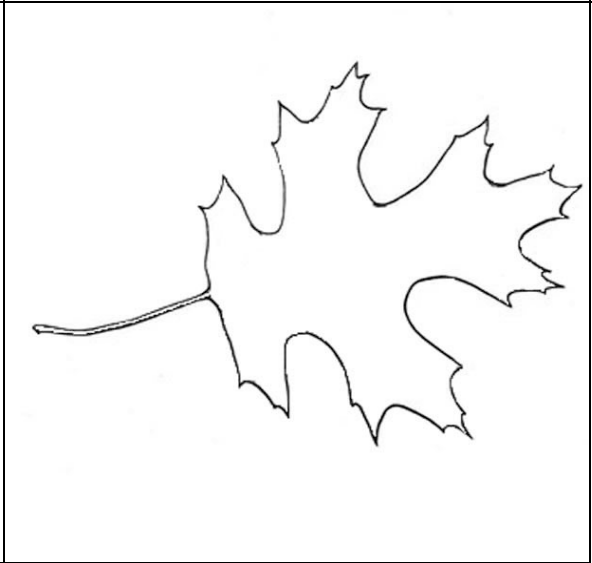
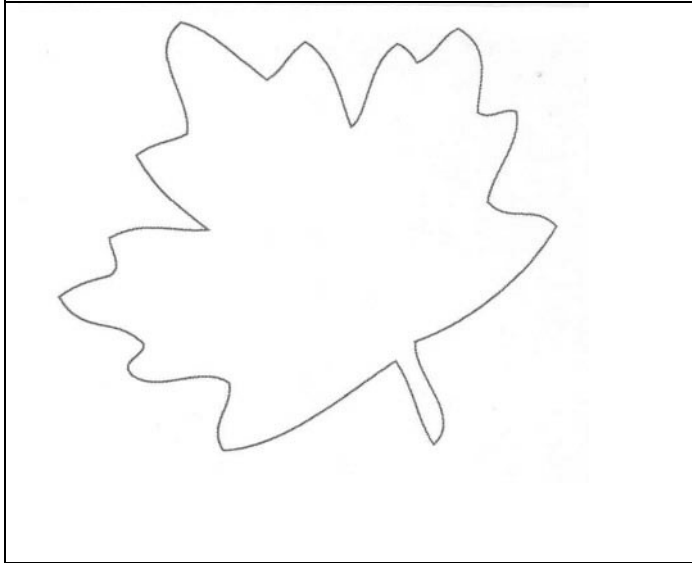
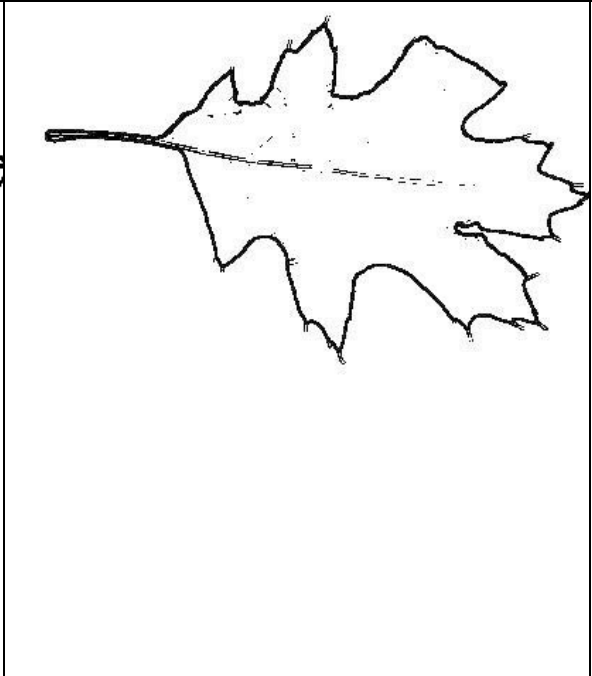
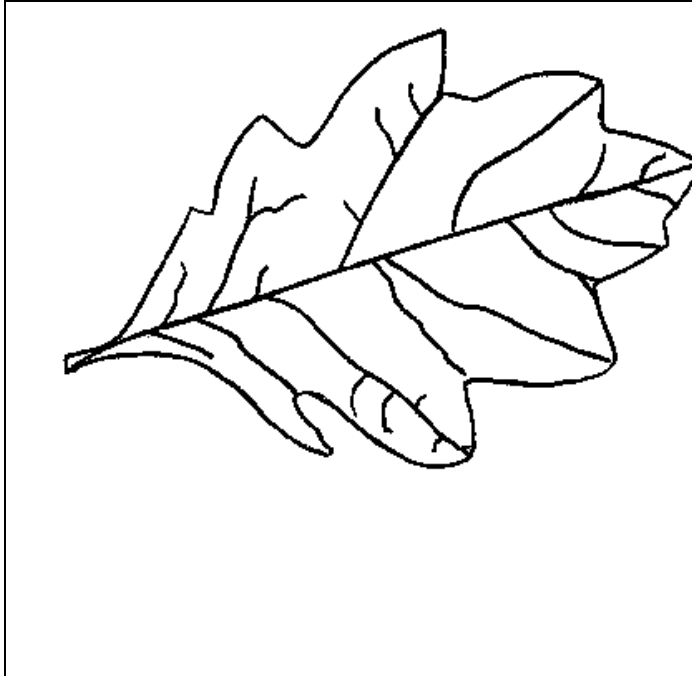
Slide 9: What is this slide showing? How do these trees help us?

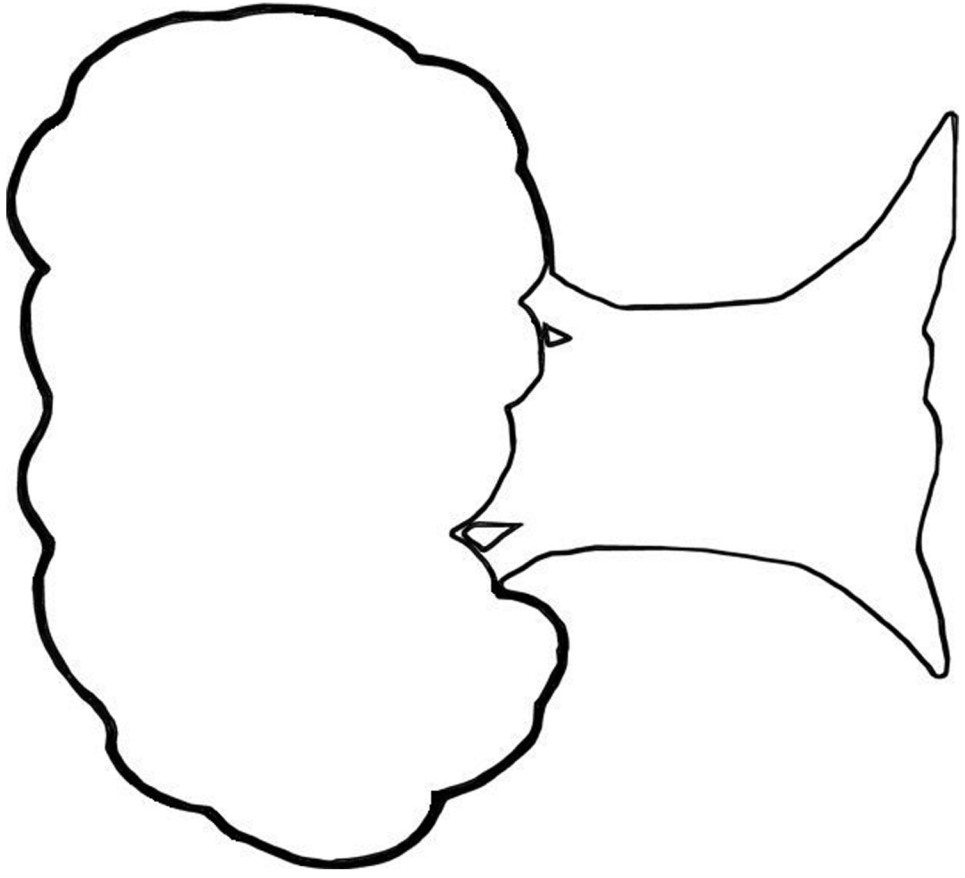
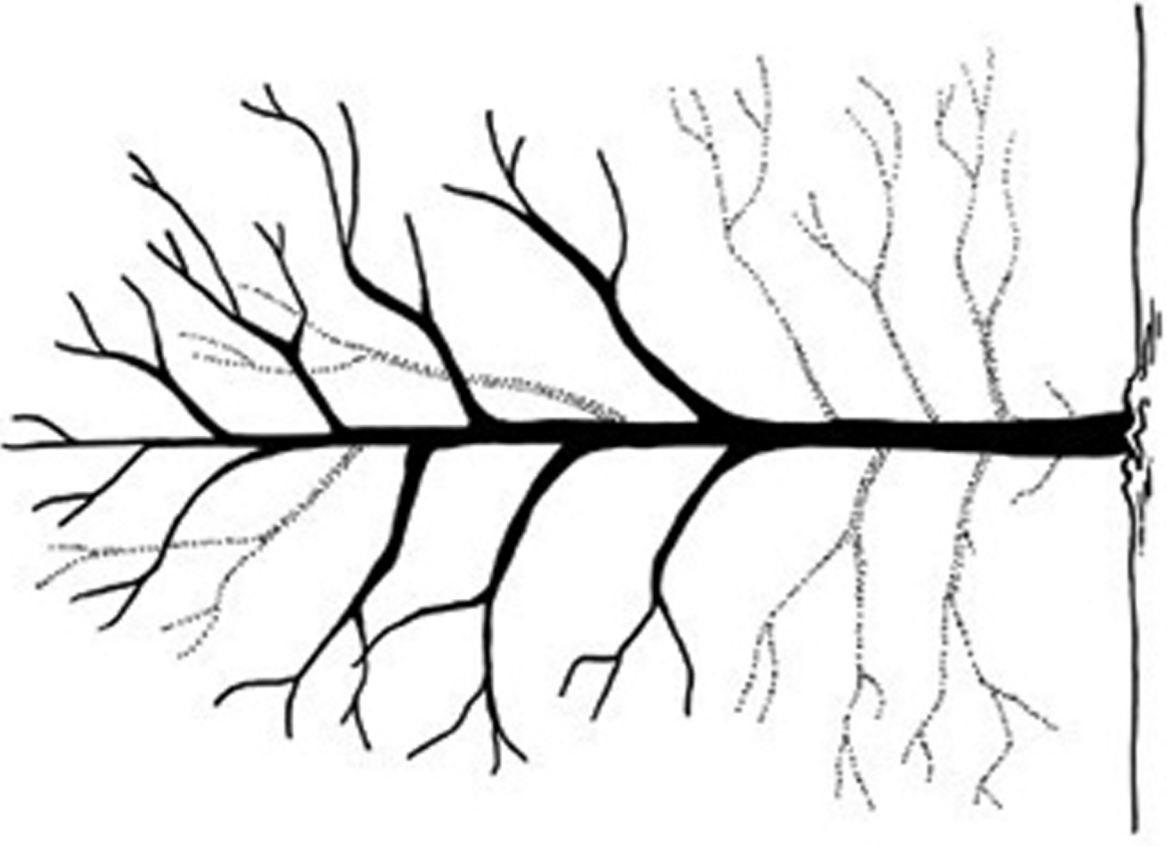
Slide 10: Does anyone see how this tree is helpful for the community? People are sitting under it to keep cool in the shade. In some places, classrooms are outside and students sit under a big tree.

Slide 11: This slide shows how people are trying to limit their impact on the environment. By keeping cows and other grazing animals close, less land and trees have to be cleared. This is a conservation strategy.

Extension Activities

- As a science extension, have students come up all the species that would be part of the tree's environment. They should come up with answers like birds, squirrels, worms, grass, flowers, ants, bees, etc. These can then be drawn and posted on and around the tree outline to show the tree's ecosystem.
- Learning stations, as available, for background information: library books and pictures of trees, tapes/CDs of quiet, peaceful music, Internet sites.
- Making a bulletin board display of Plants Unit with journal entry writing, graphs, coloured pictures.







Trees for Life!

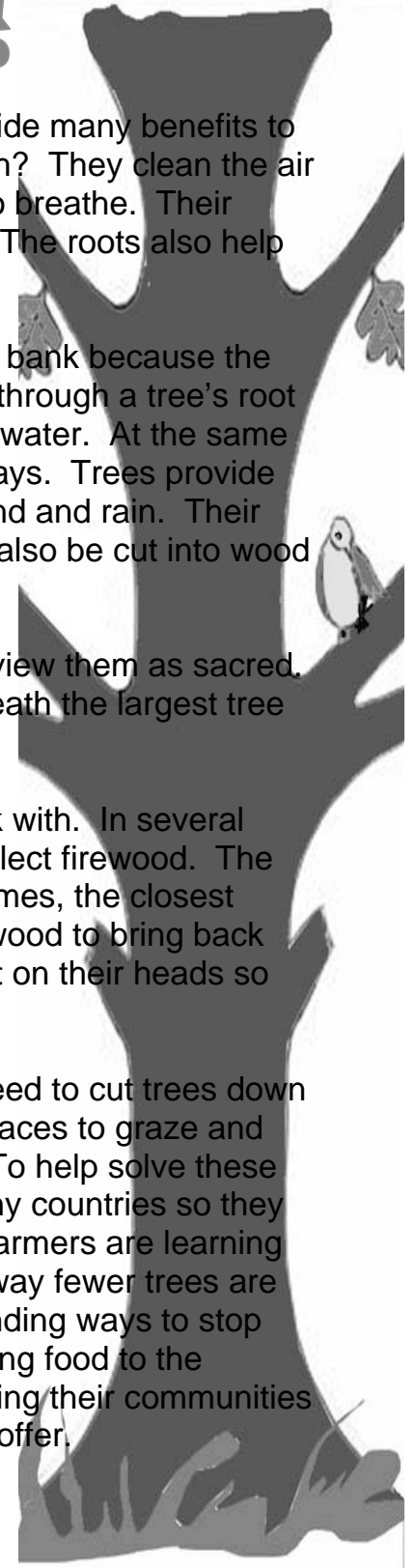
Trees play a very important role on the earth and provide many benefits to the planet. Did you know that trees are the lungs of the earth? They clean the air by taking carbon dioxide from the air and giving us oxygen to breathe. Their roots are important because they can hold water in the soil. The roots also help keep the soil in place to stop erosion.

Fish in the rivers benefit from having trees on the river bank because the trees can filter the water flowing into the river. As rain flows through a tree's root system, the roots filter sediment and even pollution from the water. At the same time, the shade the trees give keeps the rivers cool on hot days. Trees provide shade on land too and they also protect animals from the wind and rain. Their branches are homes for many animals and birds. They can also be cut into wood to build homes and to heat them in the cold months.

Some communities around the world value trees and view them as sacred. There are other places where students' classrooms are beneath the largest tree in the village. Children sit under the tree to learn.

In many countries, wood is also very important to cook with. In several countries around the world, the first chore of the day is to collect firewood. The wood is used to build a fire to cook food for the day. Sometimes, the closest forest is far away and it takes a long time to gather enough wood to bring back home. The wood is very heavy so people sometimes carry it on their heads so they can support the weight with their entire bodies.

When farmers want to grow plants, sometimes they need to cut trees down to make room for their crops. Farmers' animals also need places to graze and find food, which often means cutting down trees for space. To help solve these problems, organizations like CHF are helping farmers in many countries so they can keep as many trees in their communities as possible. Farmers are learning better ways to grow more food on the land they have. This way fewer trees are cut down to make room for more crops. Farmers are also finding ways to stop their animals from grazing on the land around them by bringing food to the animals. In some places, farmers and other people are helping their communities by planting trees so they can enjoy all the great things trees offer.





Des arbres pour la vie !

Les arbres ont un rôle très important dans la vie sur terre et sont très bénéfiques pour notre planète. Saviez-vous que les arbres sont les poumons de la terre? Les arbres purifient l'air en prenant le dioxyde de carbone dans l'air et en le remplaçant par l'oxygène que nous respirons. Les racines sont importantes à cause de leur capacité de retenir l'eau dans le sol. Les racines retiennent également le sol en place afin de prévenir l'érosion.

Les poissons dans les rivières profitent aussi de la présence des arbres sur les rives parce que les arbres aident à filtrer l'eau qui s'écoule vers les rivières. L'eau de pluie est filtrée par le système de racines de l'arbre qui empêche les sédiments et les polluants de se verser dans l'eau. En même temps, les arbres créent de l'ombre afin de garder les rivières au frais les journées de grandes chaleurs. Les arbres fournissent de l'ombre à la terre et protègent les animaux des vents et de la pluie. Les arbres fournissent de la protection aux oiseaux et aux petits animaux. On peut occuper les arbres pour se procurer du bois de construction et de chauffage afin de chauffer la maison pendant les saisons froides.

Beaucoup de communautés accordent aux arbres une grande valeur et les considèrent comme des êtres sacrés. Dans certains villages, les écoliers se réunissent au pied du plus grand arbre du village. Les enfants s'assoient à l'ombre pour apprendre leurs leçons.

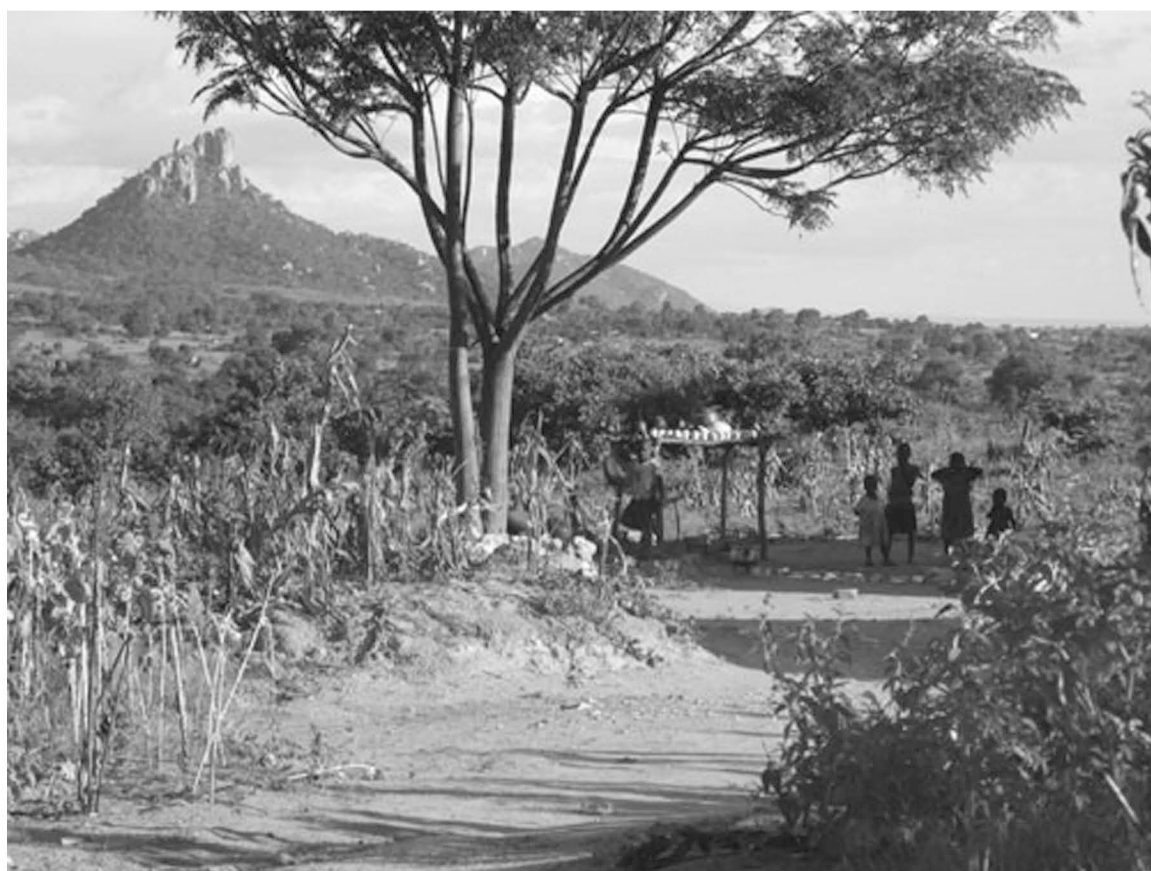
Dans beaucoup de pays, le bois est très important comme combustible. Dans beaucoup de pays, la première corvée de la journée est de ramasser le bois pour faire le feu. Le bois est utilisé pour faire un feu et pour préparer les repas pour toute la journée. Si la forêt est très éloignée, il faut beaucoup de temps pour aller ramasser assez de bois et de le ramener à la maison. Le bois peut être très pesant et certaines personnes préfèrent le porter sur la tête afin de bien supporter le bois de leur charge.

Quand les agriculteurs doivent planter, parfois ils ont besoin d'abattre les arbres afin de défricher la terre. Les animaux ont également besoin de pâturage ce qui veut dire qu'on doit couper d'autres arbres pour faire de l'espace. Afin de résoudre ces problèmes, des organismes comme CHF aident les agriculteurs dans beaucoup de pays à préserver autant que possible les arbres dans leurs communautés. Les agriculteurs apprennent de nouvelles façons de planter des cultures plus abondantes sur les terres qu'ils ont déjà à leur disposition. De cette façon, ils coupent moins d'arbres pour les cultures. Les agriculteurs trouvent également la façon d'améliorer le pâturage des animaux en apportant la nourriture aux animaux. Dans certaines régions, les agriculteurs et les autres personnes aident la communauté par la plantation d'arbres afin de profiter de nombreux avantages fournis par les arbres.













Assessment

Each student's contributions can be observed and recorded anecdotally by the teacher. A rubric is provided that can be used for assessment/evaluation purposes by the teacher.

Trees for Life

Student's Name: _____

Criteria	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrates limited knowledge of content	Demonstrates some knowledge of content	Demonstrates considerable knowledge of content	Demonstrates thorough knowledge of content
	Demonstrates limited understanding of concepts	Demonstrates some understanding of concepts	Demonstrates considerable understanding of concepts	Demonstrates thorough understanding of concepts
Thinking	Uses processing skills with limited effectiveness	Uses processing skills with some effectiveness	Uses processing skills with considerable effectiveness	Uses processing skills with a high degree of effectiveness
	Uses critical/creative thinking processes with limited effectiveness	Uses critical/creative thinking processes with some effectiveness	Uses critical/creative thinking processes with considerable effectiveness	Uses critical/creative thinking processes with a high degree of effectiveness
Communication	Expresses and organizes ideas and information with limited effectiveness	Expresses and organizes ideas and information with some effectiveness	Expresses and organizes ideas and information with considerable effectiveness	Expresses and organizes ideas and information with a high degree of effectiveness
Application	Applies knowledge and skills in familiar contexts with limited effectiveness	Applies knowledge and skills in familiar contexts with some effectiveness	Applies knowledge and skills in familiar contexts with considerable effectiveness	Applies knowledge and skills in familiar contexts with a high degree of effectiveness
	Makes connections within and between various contexts with limited effectiveness	Makes connections within and between various contexts with some effectiveness	Makes connections within and between various contexts with considerable effectiveness	Makes connections within and between various contexts with a high degree of effectiveness