

Glossary- Key Words in the Booklet-

Biodiversity: A measure of the variety of life found in an area. It is a product of the number of species and the genetic variability within individual species.

Canopy: The uppermost layer in the forests where branches spread out so that leaves can capture light.

Carbon dioxide: Gas occurring naturally in the atmosphere, used by producers in photosynthesis and made during respiration.

Carbohydrates: Any of a large group of energy-producing organic compounds containing carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, such as starch, glucose, and other sugars.

Community forest: Forest managed by neighborhood villages for the well-being of the villagers and the forest.

Consumers: Animals, including humans, that eat plants and animals as food sources.

Decomposition: A process of breaking down a substance into basic elements.

Deforestation: Clearing of forests or trees.

Ecosystem: A community of organisms that interact with one another and the surrounding physical and chemical environment.

Erosion: The wearing away of the earth's surface by the action of water, wind, etc.

Evaporation: Process by which water turns from liquid to vapor.

Forest floor: Bottom layer of the forest on the ground occupied by grasses and insects. It is here that dead plants and animals are decomposed by microorganisms enriching the soil.

Genetic diversity: Variety within one species. Higher genetic diversity is better for the survival of a species.

Microorganism: Very small creatures such as bacteria and fungi.

Nutrient: Any substance that provides essential nourishment for the maintenance of life.

Organism: An individual live plant or animal.

Oxygen: Gas occurring naturally in air and water used by plants and animals in respiration and produced by plants during photosynthesis.

Producers: Organisms, such as green plants, that make their food using raw materials from the air and soil.

Seedling: A young plant, especially one raised from seed and not from a cutting.

Shrub layer: Near the ground, the layer where smaller woody plants occupy the space between the large trees that reach up to the canopy.

Soil: The upper layer of earth in which plants grow, contains various minerals and nutrients.

Transpiration: The loss of water vapors from plants through leaf pores (a tiny hole in the surface through which gases and liquid may pass.)

Guide for Utilization

* There are two ways to utilize this booklet. The first is to use it as a part of the Package Learning Materials on Environment 2 (PLANET2). To use as a package, please refer to the guide for utilization of PLANET2. The other is to use it individually. The guide for Utilization is as follows.

- Target:**
- (1) Adult learners in non-formal education programmes
 - (2) School-going and out-of-school children (grade 4-8)
 - (3) Those who are involved in environmental education programmes

Objective:

- (1) To raise awareness of the importance of forests for all living creatures, for present and future generations.
- (2) To generate a sense that humans should live in harmony with nature.
- (3) To provide simple information on forest conservation and reforestation (present situation, causes, effects, and possible solutions).
- (4) To promote the idea that people have to conserve forests and to promote positive attitudes towards forest conservation.
- (5) To encourage learners to take action for forests conservation.
- (6) To enhance reading skills of the learners.

Application:

- (1) Before distributing the booklet, discuss informally what learners know about forests, and the relationship between the forest and learners' daily lives.
- (2) Distribute this booklet to learners and ask them to read through it.
- (3) Start the discussion about the forest near their village and see if the forest is properly treated.
- (4) Discuss the benefits of forests and effects of deforestation.
- (5) Then, discuss possible actions learners can take in order to conserve forests.
- (6) The instructor may take learners to a nearby forest to review the lessons in the booklet referring to the real forest.

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