



Deforestation

Trees provide the Earth with many things that help other plants and animals (including humans) survive like air to breathe, places to live, and food to eat. We also use trees to make paper and supply wood for building houses and making furniture. Deforestation is when people destroy forests permanently to create room for farmland, housing, and other buildings.

Learn more about deforestation by watching *Hacker Hugs a Tree* where the CyberSquad learns about the importance of the Northern Frontier forest and replants trees.



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR A LINK TO THE CYBERCHASE EPISODE

GET OUTSIDE: Adopt a Tree

What trees make your part of the world special? How would your neighborhood be different if the trees were not there? Pick out a tree in your neighborhood to “adopt.” Go with an adult to observe your tree and draw pictures or take photographs of it. Record why you chose that tree and what makes it special. Think about animals that live near that tree, how the tree provides shade and a place to sit, how the tree makes the place more beautiful, how the tree makes you feel, etc. You can also use a field guide (online or in a book) to help identify the tree you picked.



EXPLORE: Three Cheers for Trees

Create a 3-dimensional piece of art that helps to communicate why trees are so important.

Materials:

- Paper and drawing materials
- Recycled paper materials like paper towel rolls, paper scraps, paper cups, magazines, catalogues, etc.
- Other craft materials like pompoms, pipe cleaners, markers, paint, etc.
- Glue, tape, or stapler
- Pens or markers for labels

Instructions:

1. Make a list of all the different places that you find trees like in your neighborhood, at school, in the park, by the side of the road, on a farm, in a forest, at the zoo, etc.
2. Draw a picture of one location from your list but leave all of the trees out of the picture.
3. Next, make a model of a tree using paper towel rolls, construction paper, paper cups, pipe cleaners, pompoms, tissue paper, etc. To save paper, use as many recycled materials as you can.
4. Display your drawing on the wall behind a table or by the floor. Then place your tree in front of the drawing. How did things change in your picture when you added your tree? You can add as many trees to your landscape as you like!
5. Think about the benefits that trees provide, for example: a home for an animal, food, shade, protection from the wind, roots that help keep the soil healthy, leaves/bark/roots that provide medicine, etc. Pick your 3 favorite benefits and write them on labels to attach to your model tree.