

Why Forests are Important

by

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Forests are very important and beneficial for local, national and international levels. We obtain many products from the trees of forests. A forest can be defined as a community, not just of plants and trees but also of the animals which inhabit the place. In fact, it is equilibrium of abiotic (non-living) components like the soil, climate and water etc and biotic (living) things, e.g. trees, animals etc. Around 30% of the land is covered in forests and they are the storehouses of the biological diversity on our planet.

Forests are important because:

- ➔ Forests reduce global warming. The good news is that forests cool the air by releasing water vapours into the air. This phenomenon is called vaporization.
- ➔ During day time the trees absorb carbon dioxide, which is a green house gas, and release oxygen.
- ➔ Forests are excellent sound barriers and thus help contain noise pollution.
- ➔ Their artistic value is beyond what can be put in words.
- ➔ If forests are well managed, they improve the quality of water in the surrounding areas.
- ➔ In addition to improving the water quality, forests have also been found to raise the ground water table.
- ➔ The wood that forests supply in plenty is useful in different ways.
- ➔ It is not difficult to find as many as 1500 invertebrates on a single tree in a typical rain forest. Some of these species hold the keys to scientific mysteries and they are useful in drug research.
- ➔ Forests add to the economy. The tourists, herbs etc are a good source of income.
- ➔ Twenty-five percent of our modern medicines are a result of studying the forest and so far only 1% of the forests have been studied, so it can only be imagined what the rest of the 99% hold.

- ➔ We get wood from the trees which are further used in many products used by us like timber wood is widely used in furniture, constructions and other domestic purposes.
- ➔ Other products like paper, fiber board, cardboard etc are also made from the wood.
- ➔ If these forests are cleared then the stream and rivers will carry the huge amount of soil with them. So the roots of trees prevent the soil erosion in the forests of sloping watersheds.
- ➔ Forests give shade and humid the air which lowers the temperature of nearby areas.
- ➔ Forest is a habitat for many animals called wild animals. It is also a dwelling place for the tribal people who are living there for many generations. Researches have shown that approximately 50 percent of living species on the earth has their dwelling place in forests.

Websites used:

<http://www.letusfindout.com/why-are-forests-important>

<http://www.thegeminigeek.com/why-are-forests-important>