



Lesson Plan and Student Worksheet

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TRUAX

Lesson Plan Copying Permitted

Objective:

To help students think about the importance of renewable resources and the management of these resources.

Activity:

- Read TRUAX
- Discuss why the Guardbark did not want the trees cut (include love of trees beauty, fear of having no trees, misinformation, etc.)
- Discuss why the woodcutter thought it was reasonable and necessary to cut trees (including: his livelihood, having products for people's use, we can renew the resources, etc.)
- List products made from trees.
- Have the children discuss what would be used to replace each wood product listed and whether or not it is a "renewable resource".
- Define "renewable resource". Compare to a "non-renewable" resource.
- Discuss what Truax does to make sure there will be plenty of trees.
- Ask how the children feel about what Truax and his fellow timber cutters are doing to make sure we have forests and forest products.

Extension:

- Discuss what happens to a log after a tree has been cut down.
- Visit a nearby sawmill, furniture factory, or flooring plant. Talk about the number of people who have jobs because of wood products.
- Discuss how people have depended on trees down through history.
- Read THE LORAX by Dr. Seuss. Discuss how the TRUAX scenario closely represents American forest management than the scenario described in THE LORAX.



Student Worksheet

1. Why did the Guardbark want people to leave trees alone? Give at least two reasons.
2. Why did Truax think it was reasonable to cut some trees? Give at least two reasons.
3. Name three ways that Native Americans depended on trees. How did early American settlers use trees? Do we still need trees today?
4. Make a list of at least six products we use that come from trees.
5. Go back to your list. If we could not cut trees, we would have to use something else to make the products you listed. Beside each product, write down what we could use to replace the product made from trees.
6. A "renewable" resource is something that can be "made new again". In other words, we can make more of the resource so that it never has to run out. What does "nonrenewable" resource mean?
7. On your list of replacement products, did you have some products made from oil (like plastics)? Is oil a "renewable" resource or a "non-renewable" resource?
8. Did you have some replacement products made from metal? Is metal a "renewable" resource or a "non-renewable" resource?



9. What does Truax and his friends do to make sure there are plenty of trees?

10. Truax and other US timbercutters do many things (like replanting and controlling forest fires) to make sure we have plenty of trees for the future. How does that make you feel?

11. Find out more about what the forest products industry is doing by visiting a nearby forest products mill. Talk with people who have jobs in the forest products industry.

12. Read "The Lorax" by Dr. Seuss. Which story do you think is the most like what is really happening in the United States?

13. You can write to the following address for true facts on how America's forests are being managed.

American Forest & Paper Association

1111 19th Street NW

Washington, D.C. 20036

