



Products of the Rain Forest

Summary: Students will identify household foods and products found in their home that use rain forest materials.

Background Information:

A surprising number of products we use in our daily lives come from tropical rainforests. Many of these products are now grown commercially far from their original home. Some products may contribute to the destruction of tropical rain forests while the sale of others promotes their protection.

Materials: - per student

- Everyday things That Come from Tropical Rain Forests sheet
- Pencil

Procedure:

Activity 1.- Day 1

Distribute a copy of Everyday Things That Come from Tropical Rain Forests to each student. Explain that products from rain forests are found almost everywhere in our lives. Tell students to check off items on the list that they find at their home or school. Remind them to check lists of ingredients on product labels.

Activity 2.- Day 2

Encourage students to share discoveries in class. Small items or labels from products can be brought to class. Create a master list for the entire class.

Additional Activity ideas:

1. Ask each student to keep track of everything used by the family each day. Tell them to note how many things come from tropical rain forests.
2. Ask students to design a menu for a balanced meal that has no rain forest products in it.

Conclusion.

Grade Level: 7th grade students.

Goal: To identify rain forest products that are in our houses.

Key Concepts:

Sustainability
Rain Forest Products

Objectives: Upon completion of this lesson, students will:

- 1) Identify products that come from the rain forest

Teaching Location:

In the classroom and at home

Lesson Time: two class periods

Subject Areas for

Infusion: Science, Spanish, Family and Consumer Education

Standards:

Environmental Education
A.8.5
Foreign Language
Beginning (Receptive-Imitative)
E.2 Contributions
I.2 Comparisons

Answer any questions and discuss ways to support the protection of the rain forest.

Assessment. Students will complete the inventory sheet.

Adaptations: Parents, teachers or aides can assist a student with special needs in completing the survey and explaining what some of the items are.

References:

MayaQuest: Mysteries of the Rain Forest, 1992 Science of Museum of Minnesota