

Environmental Problem: Deforestation

First WATCH the video, then do the exercises!

Watch the video again and fill in the missing words:

Forests cover about 30% of our planet and the …….. they create play an essential role in …….. on Earth. But deforestation is clearing Earth's forests on a massive scale. And at the current rate of destruction, the world's rainforests could completely disappear ……...

Why should we care about deforestation?

Together, forestry and agriculture are responsible for 24% of greenhouse gas emissions, making deforestation a …….. to climate

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change. Deforestation impacts the amount of greenhouse gases in the ..... in two ways: First, when trees are felled, they ..... they are storing into the atmosphere. Second, trees play a critical role in ..... the greenhouse gases that fuel global warming. ..... forests mean larger amounts of greenhouse gases entering the atmosphere and increase speed and severity of global warming. In addition to helping regulate the Earth's climate, forests provide ..... for over ..... that live on land. But deforestation ..... these habitats, diminishing ..... Some estimate that four to six thousand rainforest ..... go extinct each year. This also affects the more than 2 billion people who ..... forests as sources of food and shelter. The biggest driver of deforestation is ..... Farmers chop down trees in order to plant ..... like soybeans, palm trees, cocoa or to make room to raise livestock for beef. Logging operations which provide the world's wood and paper products also cut countless trees each year. Forests are also ..... as a result of growing urban sprawl as land is developed for dwellings.

The effects of deforestation are ..... but not irreversible. Efforts such as managing forest resources, eliminating clear-cutting, and ..... to replace those removed are already being made to reduce deforestation's environmental impact on our planet. And while some plant and animal species are gone forever, combating deforestation can help prevent further ..... of biodiversity.

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