



ANSWER KEY

Exercise: 1

**Instructions:** Forests are very important for a number of reasons, which include supporting wildlife, preventing erosion, production of oxygen, and many other human needs. Fortunately, Idaho has many forested areas that gives us the materials and recreational opportunities we desire, Unfortunately, we have not always been wise stewards of these resources and human over harvest and misuse have taken their toll. This activity will give you a brief overview of the history and status of Idaho forests. Use your knowledge to answer the following questions:

1. About two-fifths of all the land in Idaho is \_\_\_\_\_ land. National forest
2. Name three different kinds of trees found in Idaho forests:  
(a) \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ Ponderosa, Douglas fir, Western white pine, Lodgepole pine, Western red cedar, and Quaking Aspen are some possible answers
3. Define and give examples of forest conservation \_\_\_\_\_. Conservation consists of protecting our forests and using them wisely. Examples can vary.
4. The worst enemy of our forest resources is \_\_\_\_\_. Clear cutting forests at a non-sustainable rate and the erosion of soil fertility that results.
5. How has logging changed in the past 100 years? Logging is much different compared to 100 years ago. They used to use whipsaws and stream powered sawmills. Now they use powered machinery for this purpose.
6. Why is forest conservation important to you? Answers will vary
7. What are some ways that people waste trees? Answers will vary
8. What can you do to prevent forest fires? Answers will vary
9. Why are forests important? Forests are important because they prevent erosion by holding the fertile topsoil in place. Tree roots and leaf litter provides fertile nurseries for microorganisms that work to enrich the soil. Forests are also home to many species of wildlife. They produce oxygen, and are used by humans as a natural resource.
10. Name some things that are made from trees. Answers should include wood and paper products.
11. How did President Theodore Roosevelt help save Idaho's forests? While he was President, he set aside 148million acres of forest to be our national reserves. He also created the Forest Service to take care of these forest reserves.
12. How does the Forest Service protect Idaho's forests? The forest service protects forests by controlling and fighting fires. They also manage the cutting of trees to provide for the long-term delivery of multiple resources from our forests. The forest service also provides roads through forests. They also fight insect infestations and diseases that destroy millions of trees every year.