

Forest Harvest Lesson Plan –

Begin with PPT “Thinning The Forest”. 10-15 min.

This is primarily a slide show and your notes for narrative will be necessary. This connects to some of the information from the wildfire lessons, if those have been used. The last slide includes a YouTube link to a video produced by The Conservation Fund. ~ 4 min.

Briefly discuss with students if these photos look like their forests. Do they think the forests are “sustainable”? (Some products are now labeled as derived from “Sustainable Forestry Practices”.)

Next, move to the “Harvesting Your Forest” PPT (15-20 min). You will also need your narrative notes for this and access to YouTube for videos (2) embedded in slides.

Class Discussion: 5-10 min

Should the forests be harvested in a sustainable way? Why? **Students should understand the forest is a renewable resource that must be properly managed for the best outcomes in the future.**

How do people in this community feel about cutting trees? **If there is a negative opinion, how would the students change that?**

Does forest harvest have any impact on our local economy? **Jobs, product costs, wildfire impacts, wildlife habitats, hunting, recreation etc.**

If there is extra time, see [video links](#) for other harvesting – by helicopter in Scotland, by truck in Australia, or floating pulp logs early in the 1930s.

Supplies and Preparation

Computer with PowerPoint and access to YouTube (Teacher)

Print teacher’s notes for ‘Thinning the Forest’ and ‘Harvesting the Forest’ PPTs.

Have student read (print or online) ‘[Harvest background for student reading](#)’ page before class.