

Fascinating Facts About Forests!



People and Planet


Forests are areas of land covered by towering trees. They can be found almost all over the world – from the snows of deepest Alaska to the tropical heat of Malaysia, and beyond. Experts estimate that forests cover roughly a third of the Earth's surface! What's more, they play a key role in controlling climate, making oxygen, keeping soil healthy, acting as windbreaks and helping to prevent flooding!

Forests are packed full of wonderful wildlife, providing homes for more than three-quarters of the world's land species, from fascinating fungi and brilliant birds to amazing apes and marvellous moose! Forests provide food, shelter, and safe places for animals to hide and breed.


Sadly, forests are being lost to deforestation – meaning they're cut down for timber or to make way for roads, mines, houses and farming.

FUN FACT!

Forests can be made up of hundreds of billions of trees!



Spending time in forests has been proven to help people relax!



Forests are home to 68% of the world's mammal species!


Did you know?

- Trees are the **longest-living organisms on Earth** – they never die of old age!
- **NASA astronauts** and the **US Forest Service** teamed up to grow **seeds on the Moon!**
- Trees can **share nutrients** and even **warn one another of danger!**

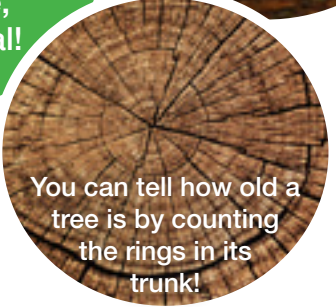
The good news is that charities, conservation groups, and people around the world are working to stop deforestation, and you can help, too!

FUN FACT!

There are three main types of forests – boreal, temperate, and tropical!



Fungi comes in all sorts of shapes, sizes, and colours!



You can tell how old a tree is by counting the rings in its trunk!

Spread the word!

Talk to your friends and family about the importance of forests.

Raise awareness!

Support a charity that protects forests – try hosting a bake sale at your school with your parents.

Grow your own!

Plant something new in your backyard, in a window box, or find out if there are any community gardens that need volunteers near you.