**Exploring Deforestation**

(modified from Institute for Humane Education)

1. Access the Global Forest Change Website:

<http://earthenginepartners.appspot.com/science-2013-global-forest?_sm_au_=iVVqHrVsj8SZrJ7N>

* 1. Use the dropdown menu to access “Loss/Extent/Gain” under the Data Products box. The areas shown in green represent forests around the world. What types of ecosystems would be found in areas that are NOT green?
  2. Change the dropdown menu to “Forest Cover Loss 2000-2014”. Global deforestation over the past 14 years is now shown in red. Identify 4 regions of the world that have an especially high level of deforestation. Use a world map for reference if necessary.
  3. Enter “Matthews, NC” in the search box on the map. Change the dropdown menu to “Forest Cover Loss 2000-2014 (transparent)”. DESCRIBE deforestation in this area in the past 14 years.

1. RESEARCH:

Each group will be assigned a different location from the “Example Locations” menu. Conduct independent research to *thoroughly* answer the following questions about your location:

* 1. What are the main causes of deforestation in this area?
  2. Who benefits from this deforestation? WHY do they benefit?
  3. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION….

Being as specific to your assigned area as possible, what are the negative consequences of deforestation for:

* + 1. People?
    2. Animals?
    3. The Environment?
  1. What types of trees are being logged?

What type of forest management system or tree-harvesting methods are being used?

1. COMMUNICATE YOUR RESEARCH:

Complete the template you have been given to summarize the information that you have researched and add this to the classroom world map.

1. TAKE ACTION:

With your group, make a list of possible actions that can be taken to reduce deforestation and promote humane and sustainable alternatives.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| In your daily life  (*need at least* ***3***): | In your local community (*need at least* ***2***): | On a global scale  (*need at least* ***1***): |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

Choose ONE of the action items that can be done in your daily life and do one of the following:

* Communicate the need for doing this to your friends on social media. Send me a screenshot as proof that you’ve done it (each person in the group must do this individually).
* Create a flyer to hang up in the school. Send it to me to print, then hang it in the main hallway (this can be done as a group).
* Discuss this action item with your family and make a commitment to taking this action. Create a family contract and have each person sign it (each person in the group must do this individually).

LOCATION:

REASON FOR DEFORESTATION:

MAJOR CONSEQUENCES:

MANANGEMENT STRATEGY:

LOCATION:

REASON FOR DEFORESTATION:

MAJOR CONSEQUENCES:

MANANGEMENT STRATEGY:

LOCATION:

REASON FOR DEFORESTATION:

MAJOR CONSEQUENCES:

MANANGEMENT STRATEGY:

LOCATION:

REASON FOR DEFORESTATION:

MAJOR CONSEQUENCES:

MANANGEMENT STRATEGY: