Using the World Forest Tour

The following seven pages of this module contain 60 "World Forest Tour" cards that provide students with concrete examples of forests’ inherent values, the challenges they face, and what communities are doing to ensure their future. You may copy and laminate the cards to use with students in many ways. You may also download larger color versions (which include photographs) from the PLT website at http://www.plt.org/forests-of-the-world.

How to Use the Cards

The cards are an integral part of three different module activities:

- In Activity 2: What is a Forest? (Part B, step 3), students look to the cards for ideas on how people in various regions view forests.
- In Activity 4: Analyzing Patterns of Change (Part A, step 3), students use the cards to identify ways that humans change forests.
- In Activity 9: Researching Forests Around the World (step 4), students review the cards to find and select a country or forest region to research.

In addition, you might consider using the cards in other innovative ways:

- Have each student pick a card to share within small groups. The group members can read their cards aloud, and then discuss what their group’s cards have in common.
- Sort the cards by the four icons (located in the top right corner of each card). Have students look at all the cards with the same icon, and discern from the cards’ text what they think that icon means. The card categories below offer one description for each icon, but challenge students to come up with their own.
- After doing Activity 5 or 6, give students each a card and ask them to write about the environmental, social, and economic elements involved in the scenario. Discuss which elements are the most and least prevalent across all the cards.
- Hand out a card to each student, and have the class read and place their cards on the “Global Connections: Forests of the World” poster to see what patterns emerge by continent or region. Compare what you find in the stories to the data in Appendices E and F.

Card Categories

The cards are presented in the following four categories, differentiated from one another by the icons below. While each card is assigned only one icon, the topics highlighted are interrelated and often overlap.

Making a Living
These cards show people who struggle to make their living from forests.

The Forest Provides
These cards offer examples of the countless things that people get from forests.

Wildlife
These cards describe some of the wildlife species that are threatened from forest habitat degradation or loss.

People and the Forest
These cards describe some of the complex interactions between human populations and forests.