

## Who Works in this Forest?

### 1. Juanita

Many of my friends call me “Wild Woman.” That’s because I’m a wild-life biologist. I help make sure that wild animals and plants have all the things they need to survive, such as food, water, and space.

Why is this job important? Explain.

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### 2. Jamal

Like all hydrologists (high-DRAHL-uh-jists), I’m interested in water. I look at water supplies, study water-sheds and water cycles, and try to solve water pollution problems.

Why is this job important? Explain.

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### 3. Haley

I love numbers. And I get to deal with them each day: I’m a budget analyst. (A budget is a kind of out-line of the money an organization expects to spend during a year.) I review the budgets people set up to make sure they’re not spending too much money or spending money on the “wrong” things, and to make sure they’re spending enough money on the “right” things.

Why is this job important? Explain.

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### 4. Elinor

How would you like to decide how a forest should be cared for? That’s what I do all the time. I’m a forester. Being a forester can be tricky: I have to find the right balance between all kinds of needs, including the needs of people, plants, and animals.

Why is this job important? Explain.

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### 5. Corey

When people ask me what I do, I tell them I have a “dirty” job. I’m a soil scientist. One thing I do is monitor soils to make sure they don’t get smashed down, or compacted. I know that soil can absorb a lot of water from snowmelt and rain. But if the soil gets compacted, rainwater and snowmelt can rush right off, causing erosion problems.

Why is this job important? Explain.

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### 6. Takashi

Are some living things more resistant to diseases and pests than others? Do some living things grow faster than others? Can these abilities be transferred to other living things, creating things that are “better”? These are the kinds of questions I’m trying to answer. I’m a geneticist (juh-NET-uh-sist).

Why is this job important? Explain.

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