



The Forest Times

Age range: 14-16

Time: Five 75-minute periods

Subjects: English, Media, Science, Geography

Resources: several newspapers, class set of handouts: *The Forest Times* and *Article Guide*, computer access

Learning Outcomes

Students will understand the values placed on our forest by creating a class newspaper featuring forest-related articles and illustrations. (Students require some experience with newspapers to complete this activity.)

Hook: What's in a Newspaper?

Hand out several newspapers to students in small groups. Have them examine the style of the headlines (short, almost point-form, attention-grabbing) and the way 'who, what, when, where, why and how' are covered in the first few sentences of every article.

Procedure

1 Introduce the boreal forest using maps from pages 4 and 5, Background material (pages 3, 6 and 7) and the Hinterland Who's Who handout on the boreal forest: <http://www.hww.ca/hww2.asp?id=354> See the Teaching Resources section in teaching kit Volume 7 for other options.

2 Each pair of students will research and contribute one article (perhaps by interviewing forest professionals; through exchanges with students in other jurisdictions, such as urban and rural areas; through Internet research), one comic and one advertisement.

Extension

Copies of the class's complete Forest Times can be submitted to another class or to the entire school in order to raise awareness of boreal forest issues.



The Forest Times

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For your page of The Forest Times, you will select or be assigned a topic from the list below. You can organize your page through Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Word or any other suitable program. Your page must contain:

1. **A news story**, presenting who, what, where, when, why and how in the first few lines and then expanding on this information in the rest of the article. To do this, go to websites provided or use other sources as directed by your teacher. When you have found suitable sources, take point form handwritten notes on the handout *Article Guide*. Then use these notes to write your story. (This will help prevent plagiarism.) Your story should be around four paragraphs long. As you do your Internet research, keep an eye out for ideas for a comic and an advertisement related to your topic (see below).
2. **A comic** related to the topic. It could be an amusing comic or the start of a story that would be continued in each issue of The Forest Times.
3. **An advertisement** for something related to the topic (e.g., an ad for a sale of a wood product, an ad for an event in the forest, etc.).
4. Once everything is completed in rough copy, finalize it by typing up your story, creating the final version of your ad and comic and formatting your page using an appropriate computer program.

Topic List/Headlines:

Mountain pine beetle: a menace to our forests http://www.pfc.forestry.ca/entomology/mpb/index_e.html

Forest-related careers: yours to discover (Go to <http://www.oforest.on.ca/> Select *Programs*, then *Forest Careers Awareness*. Under 'Forest Career Resources,' select Career Information and Statistics and under 'Forest Education Resources,' select *Post-secondary Education*)

Non-timber forest products: what are they? <http://www.royalroads.net/ntfp/casestudies/>

Global climate change and our forests: how will they be affected? Go to www.macleans.ca and use the Search button to find an article "Nicer wines, a bit of malaria" by Alexandra Shimo, Feb 15, 2007 – see section on Forests

What's new with value-added wood products (Go to <http://www.cwc.ca> Select Products)

Forest fires: a good thing? (Go to <http://affm.mnr.gov.on.ca/> Select *Forest Fire Management*. Under "About Forest Fires," select *The Science of Fire* and then, *Fire Ecology*.)

Biomass: Energy from the forest http://www.canren.gc.ca/resou_asse/index.asp?CaID=53&PgID=57 <http://www.centreforenergy.com/silos/biomass/biomassOverview06.asp>

Do you know the Forest Capitals of Canada? (www.canadianforestry.com See *Community Outreach*)

National Forest Week – everything you need to know (www.canadianforestry.com See *Community Outreach*)

Sawmills: an inside look (Take the virtual tours at www.learnforestry.com Select *Resources* and choose a virtual mill tour at bottom)

Getting to know Canada's boreal forest (<http://www.borealcanada.ca/>)

Canada's boreal forest – who, who, who calls it home <http://www.borealbirds.org/>

Effect of oil and gas exploration in the boreal forest <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2001/08/19/MN105493.DTL>



Name: _____ Date: _____



Article Guide – The Forest Times

Topic: _____

Headline: _____

Who? _____

Details: _____

What? _____

Details: _____

Where? _____

Details: _____

When? _____

Details: _____

Why? _____

Details: _____

How? _____

Details: _____

Comic ideas: _____

Ad ideas: _____

