

Name: _____ Date: _____

Forests: Our Lifeline

Q1. Explain why there is no waste in a forest.

Ans. _____

Q2. Explain why forest is called "the dynamic living entity"?

Ans. _____

Q3. Explain how forests prevent floods.

Ans. _____

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Q1. Explain why there is no waste in a forest.

Ans. The decomposers convert dead plants and animals to humus. The presence of humus ensures that the nutrients of the dead plants and animals are released into the soil. From there, these nutrients are again absorbed by the roots of the living plants. The dead animals become food for vultures, crows, jackals and insects. In this way, the nutrients are cycled. So, nothing goes waste in a forest.

Q2. Explain why forest is called "the dynamic living entity"?

Ans. By harbouring greater variety of plants, the forest provides greater opportunities for food and habitat for the herbivores. Larger number of herbivores means increased availability of food for a variety of carnivores. The wide variety of animals helps the forest to regenerate and grow. Decomposers help in maintaining the supply of nutrients to the growing plants in the forest. Therefore, the forest is a 'dynamic living entity' — full of life and vitality."

Q3. Explain how forests prevent floods.

Ans. Forest also acts as a natural absorber of rainwater and allows it to seep. It helps maintain the water table throughout the year. Forests not only help in controlling floods but also help maintain the flow of water in the streams so that we get a steady supply of water. On the other hand, if trees are not present, rain hits the ground directly and may flood the area around it. Heavy rain may also damage the soil. Roots of trees normally bind the soil together, but in their absence the soil is washed away or eroded.