FOREST LEARNING

NAME:

CLASS:

STUDENT SHEET

CELEBRATING OUR FORESTS

Activity 1 - International Day of the Forest

In the section below, list all the information you know about the United Nations and its role.

List all the days or years you know that the United Nations has created.

In the box below, list all the reasons why having an International Day of the Forest is so important.

In pairs, your celebration for International Forest Day. On a separate piece of paper plan your activities, who you are going to invite to speak, what you are going to ask people to wear or music you are going to have. This is a celebration – so let's make it great. Present your ideas back to the class.

Activity 2 – Letters from Trees

In 2011, students from all over the world were invited to participate in the International Year of the Forests by submitting a creative writing piece. A worldwide letter writing competition was launched, asking young people to imagine themselves as a trees and write a letter to explain why it's important to understand and protect forests.

1. Read the two winning letter extracts and discuss why forests are important to these two students.

Extract from letter by Sa Wang from China:

Letter from an observant little tree:
'…Said the chief of the Eastern Village – Forests are the wealth of all our generations – from our ancestors to our great-grandchildren. For our descendants' sake, we should not fight over trees… We will not cut down all our trees. We will plant more trees. We will plant as many trees as we have cut down.'

Extract from Charlee Gittens from Barbados:

Letter from a great oak tree in Guyana's Windsor Forest:
'…Look at the fog that surrounds the city and realise that you are on the same path. You may not see it now, a bit like getting taller. You don't realise it has happened unless you measure your height constantly or until there is such a difference that it is impossible not to have recognized it. Will you only stop when it is too late.'

Sa Wang and Charlee Gittens

Discuss as a group the pressures the girls wrote about that may be on the forests in China and Guyana.

2. Describe the tree you have chosen to write your letter from. Why did you chose this tree?

3. Write your letter from the tree below then read your letters out to the class.

Dear _____

Activity 3 – Be a Forest Hero

1. After watching the video on Madison and Rhiannon, complete the worksheet below:

- Madison and Rhiannon started out with one simple goal: to earn a girl scout bronze award by raising awareness in their local community about the endangered status of which type of animal?

- Besides the countries of Indonesia and Malaysia, name the tropical region Madison mentioned where palm oil production is having a negative effect on the inhabitants?

- Name the famous doctor who signed their petition. Jane WHO and what animal is she famous for saving?

- According to Madison, palm oil production has resulted in the loss of thousands of acres of WHAT type of forest worldwide?

- According to Madison, is palm oil production expanding or decreasing at a rapid rate?

- Name one of the products Rhiannon mentions in which palm oil is an ingredient.

2. In pairs, brainstorm what YOU can do in Australia to reduce the clearing of forests in these countries ?

3. Search the internet for information on the difference between sustainable forest management in Australia and un regulated practices in other countries such as Indonesia and Malaysia. Write the differences in the table below.

Australian Forests	Indonesian & Malaysian Forests

4. I am going to be a Forest Hero. Identify which country you are going to be a hero for and then write about what you would do to save the forests.

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