



**INDUSTRY  
GUIDE FOR  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOLS**

**FOREST INDUSTRY  
EDUCATION  
CHAMPION TOOLKIT**

This document aims to support ForestLearning’s Forest and Wood Product Industry Champions to engage with primary schools. It outlines themes in forestry and wood that students are learning across different year levels, and offers a non-prescriptive program outline to assist industry champions to present to primary students, or host an excursion.

Whether it be school based visits or field site experiences the opportunity to share the forest and wood product industry with students is rewarding and valuable.

Key Learning	Year 1/2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
This is an outline of the themes that students may be learning about	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living things and their needs</li> <li>• Features of plants</li> <li>• Habitat features</li> <li>• Life cycles</li> <li>• The use of Earth’s resources</li> <li>• Properties of materials (fibre)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Characteristic of Living/ non-living things</li> <li>• Life cycles</li> <li>• Ecosystems</li> <li>• Importance of environments</li> <li>• Management of natural resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adaptations</li> <li>• Characteristics and management of place</li> <li>• Impact of Bushfires</li> <li>• Growth and survival of living things</li> <li>• Fibre productions and technologies</li> </ul>

## SUGGESTED PROGRAM OUTLINE

### TUNING IN WITH A FEW QUESTIONS

This can lead into your connection to forests.

- What do you know about the forests/trees/wood?
- Who likes going out in the forest?
- What do you love about forests?
- What do you do in the forest?
- Who thinks they have used something that came from a tree today? What did you use? Where did it come from?

### 1. WHY ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT FORESTS?

*I love forests/trees/wood because...*

You might like to begin with your personal connection/passion for forests, for example – bushwalking, mountain bike riding, design, building... and what excites you about forests/trees or wood products?

### 2. HOW ARE YOU CONNECTED TO FORESTS?

*I am lucky enough to work in the forest/with wood/with forest products every day in my job...*

Explain your role and why it's important. Place your role in the big picture of forest management.

- Where do you fit in?
- What does your typical day look like and why do you enjoy it?

### 3. HANDS ON STIMULUS

*I have brought in something very important to my job...*

Bring with you an object or tool you work with each day. It may be an interesting technology or as simple as a seed. This object can be used to stimulate discussion amongst the students.

**Key Questions:**

- Does anyone know what this is?
- What might it be used for?
- Why is it important?

### 4. KEEPING FORESTS HEALTHY/ PROVIDING FOREST PRODUCTS

Explain your role in contributing to sustainable forestry. You may want to touch on the sustainability of your practices and how this is helping to ensure a healthy world for future generations. How does your role contribute to sustainability? Why are renewable resources important to our planet?

### 5. CONCLUSION - JOIN THE DOTS

- Revisit your story.
- Leave the class with a message about understanding the importance of forests, our connection to forest products and your role in this story.

### 6. REFLECTION/QUESTIONS:

*Here is a challenge - can you think of three really good questions before I go...*

Allow the class time to ask you questions. This is great opportunity to share more information with the students and find out what interests them. It is ok to not know the answer! Let students know it is a great question and that you don't know the answer. You could tell them you will seek an answer to share with the class, and suggest that the class could research the answer too.

### 7. SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:

- What have you learnt that you did not know before today?
- Did anything surprise you?
- What is our role in looking after forests?

\*OPTION: You could run this stage as a follow up activity one week later. The teacher could work with the class to collate reflection questions to send to you to answer in a brief virtual webinar.

For further information or questions, please contact the ForestLearning Program Manager

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Or visit [ForestLearning website](https://forestlearning.edu.au)

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