



**INDUSTRY
GUIDE FOR
SECONDARY
SCHOOLS**

FOREST INDUSTRY EDUCATION CHAMPION TOOLKIT

This document aims to support ForestLearning’s Forest and Wood Product Industry Champions to engage with secondary schools. It outlines key forest and wood themes that link to the Australian Curriculum across different year levels, and offers a non-prescriptive program outline to assist industry champions to present to secondary 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 7/8	Year 9/10	Year 11/12
This is an outline of the themes that students may be learning about	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classification Food chains and food webs Renewable resources Vegetation communities Natural features of landscape Environmental sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon cycle Sustainability Biodiversity Interdependence Ecosystem services Forest types Sustainable production Innovation in business Career pathways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Careers Geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spatial mapping - Land cover change Biology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genetics/Plant breeding - Pests/Diseases Earth and Environmental Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renewable/NonRenewable Resources - Sustainability - Climate Change

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?

- What are the best parts of your job and what big issues do they relate to e.g. sustainability, climate change, waste reduction etc?
- How did you get into your role and what did you study?

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?
- What was your career journey?
- What skills do you use in your career?

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.
- How can students also help build a sustainable forestry industry after school through training and careers?

6. REFLECTION/QUESTIONS*:

Here is a challenge can you think of 3 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 also run this stage as a follow up activity one week following whereby the teacher could work with the class to do the reflection and the class puts up 3 questions to follow up in a short 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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