



YUNGA

International Drawing Competition

2011



Convention on
Biological Diversity



**INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF FORESTS • 2011**



Convention on
Biological Diversity



YUNGA International Drawing Competition

“International Year of Forests - 2011”

Organizers:

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

The Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD)

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)



A. BACKGROUND

The International Drawing Competition is held as a part of a youth education initiative intended to enhance awareness on the importance of forests among children and young people and to provide them with knowledge that can help them to become active agents of change in our society. Relevant information about the challenges that our environment is facing today is an essential tool for enabling children and young people to take responsible action in their communities and, therefore, strengthen their participation in the protection, preservation and improvement of our natural resources. The project is developing a series of educational materials and activities for children and young people, teachers and youth leaders. The Drawing Competition linked to the 2011 International Year of Forest and has the objective to allow children and youth to explore through their drawings **why forests are important to our world**. The drawings submitted will be used in logos, posters, publications, T shirts and activity badges.

B. PARTICIPANTS

The International Drawing Competition is open to ALL children and young people from 6 to 20 years of age.

C. COMPETITION RULES

1. The drawing should reflect issues concerning forests and why they are important to our planet. It can include drawings which show how everyday actions can conserve these important wonders. Learn more about biodiversity by reading the “Time to think and act” section on page 5. You can plan and develop some cool activities to raise your group’s awareness about forests before they start drawing.
2. Drawings should be on white A4-size paper in the round or square frames provided in the annexed templates. The diameter of the round frame and length of the square should be 18 cm.
3. Remind your group that the drawing could be used for making small badges and large posters! Encourage them to use bright bold colours. Participants may use drawing

materials of any type: pens, pencils, paints, with the exception of crayons. They are also allowed to use computer graphic programmes.

4. The drawings must be the child's or youth's original creation. Most importantly they should use their imagination and have lots of fun!

D. DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

The deadline for submitting your drawings is Thursday 30 June 2011. The postmark date will be regarded as the date of delivery.

Send your drawing by e-mail to: children-youth@fao.org or by post it (preferably in a water-proof envelope) to:

Reuben Sessa
FAO, NRC
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy

Please note that if your submission is sent electronically you should keep the original drawing in a safe place as we may require the original in case your drawing is selected.

E. ADJUDICATION AND PRIZES

Adjudication will be conducted by a Panel formed from FAO and CBD staff, WAGGGS representatives and graphic designers.

Prizes of US\$250 will be awarded to the winner of each age group (6-10, 11-15 and 16-20 years old), US\$150 will be awarded to the runner up of each age group and US\$100 will be awarded to the third best drawing of each age group. From the three age group winners an overall best design will be selected; the overall winner will be invited to a special UN event to see how his/her drawing will be used.

F. HANDLING OF ENTRIES AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

All entries will be handled by the organizers and will not be returned. The intellectual property of the entries is owned by the participants. The organizers, however, have the right to publish, exhibit, print or distribute the entries through any media.

G. CERTIFICATES

Please note that due to the large number of entries we are no longer able to issue personalized certificates, however electronic blank certificates can be sent for completion. These can be requested on submission of the drawings.

H. ENQUIRIES

For further information and enquiries, please email: children-youth@fao.org



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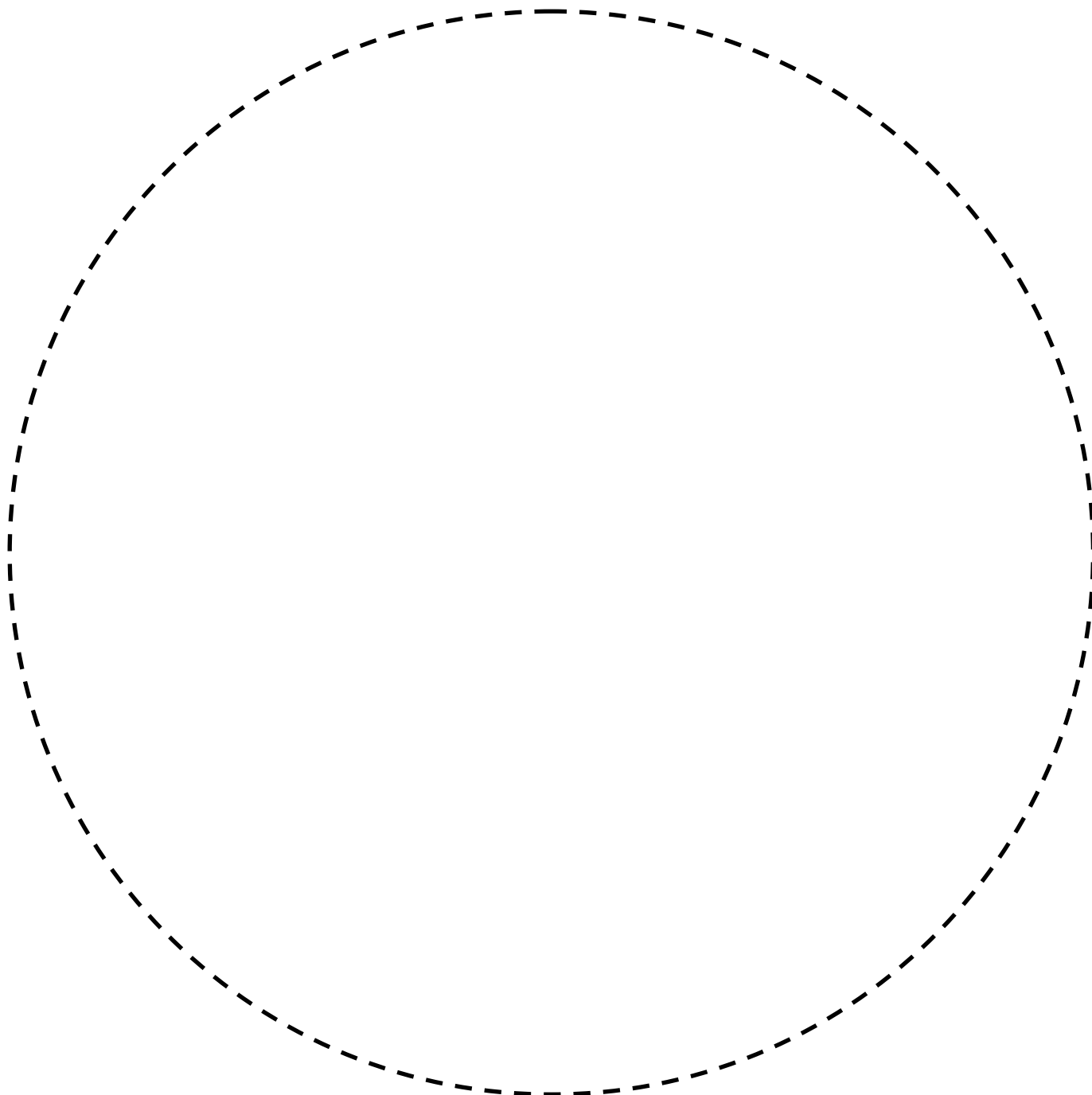


"Our Hands Together for Our Nature"
Youth action for a global difference

PARTICIPANT'S NAME AND SURNAME.....
DATE OF BIRTH (DD/MM/YYYY)..... COUNTRY.....
ADDRESS.....
TEL..... E-MAIL.....
SCHOOL/ASSOCIATION.....
TEACHER'S/LEADER'S NAME AND CONTACTS.....



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TIME TO THINK AND ACT!

Plan and organize activities you can do with your group before they start drawing. Encourage them to learn more and reflect about forests, the amazing diversity of living things within them and the support they provide. Discuss what forests mean to people – how do people and industries around the world use them? How do they fit into our cultures, our learning, our histories? Find out how forests are being lost and what young people can do to contribute to prevent this loss. You may use the facts and the ideas below to organize activities that work best for your group: games, songs, quizzes, drama, group discussions, among others.

Before you get to work...

By reading this information you will have a useful starting point for finding out about Forests, but remember, your commitment is essential to reduce the extent of its current and future impact!

So, what are forests?

There is no single definition of forests, or even trees. (For example, in some countries, bamboo is considered a grass, whereas in others it is considered a tree.) Forests are sometimes defined according to the actual vegetation (plants) growing on the ground. Other times, forests are defined as existing in particular area controlled by a government agency that manages forests. This means that you can have a "forest" without any trees! However, the FAO definition of forest is land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 metres and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent.

Forests types usually match the climatic region where they occur. The three major types are: tropical, temperate, and boreal. Forests can also be classified more specifically based on the climate and the dominant tree species present.

Why are forests important?

Forests are very important for life on Earth (including humans). They can help us fight climate change. They support people's livelihoods. The biodiversity of forests provides us with many things we need to live a good life such as medicine and timber for building houses. They also provide valuable "ecosystem services" including flood control and water filtration. The Amazon as well as the boreal forest in Canada and Russia are sometimes called "the lungs of the planet" because of their role in providing the oxygen and filtering the air we breathe. On top of all these benefits, forests are also very important to human cultures and recreational activities.

Did you know that...

- ★ Forests cover about 31% of the land on Earth (about 4 billion hectares). Forests are home to about 80 percent of the world's land-based animals and plants. Over 1.6

billion people depend on forests for their livelihoods, including 300 million people who live in forests.

- ★ Habitats are the places where animals and plants live, get their nutrients, the water and the space they need to survive. These can be rivers, forests, deserts, savannas, mountains or even your garden. Human activities such as deforestation, forest fires, pollution, overpopulation, agriculture and building roads and cities contribute to the loss of habitats and the species that live in them. The loss of habitats is the main reason why biodiversity is being lost.
- ★ As the human population continues to grow, it will continue to put pressure on its environment, causing further habitat loss and will put a great pressure on its natural resources. So, it is time to act! Many people around the world are searching for ways to improve human practices such as fishing, farming, hunting, construction or wood production in order to preserve our nature. And you can also do your part as well... Respecting the environment means respecting you.
- ★ The role that plants play in our planet is remarkable, they help maintain clean air by filtering out pollutants, they give shelter to animals, they keep us cooler by providing shade and releasing moisture through their leaves and they give us food, construction materials, textiles and medicine. In fact, forest biodiversity is the basis for more than 5,000 commercial products.
- ★ Deforestation is a major cause of biodiversity loss. 13 million hectares of forests were degraded or converted each year from 2000 to 2010. Emissions from deforestation and forest degradation may contribute more than 15% of annual global greenhouse gas emissions. The good news is that the rate of forest loss is decreasing. The bad news is that we're still losing too much of our world's forests.
- ★ Forests are sensitive to climate change – even a 1°C change can affect them. Climate change affects the types and distributions of forest species and the ways different forest species interact with each other.
- ★ Forests are fantastic water filters. Three quarters of the world's accessible fresh water (in other words, the fresh water stored in frozen glaciers is off-limits) comes from forested watershed. In developing countries, the majority of cities use forest-purified water.
- ★ Tree species and their genes can be well adapted to particular environments. Baobab tree, for example, have swollen trunks that can store up to 120,000 litres! This trait is an important survival strategy during droughts. Baobabs have also evolved to shed their leaves during the dry season.
- ★ Some farmers grow crops and raise animals in the forest. This way of including trees in farming practices is called agroforestry. For example, in some government-owned forests in Ghana farmers are allowed to plant root and vegetable crops. The farmers agree to help raise teak seedlings in the forest, and in exchange, they are allowed access to land in the forest to raise food crops (that is, until the teak shade out the food crops).

Change starts with you!

One quarter of forest lands worldwide (that's one billion hectares) need to be restored so that they can continue to produce benefits for people, plants and animals. Here are some ideas you can use in your community to make people understand, but you can also think up of new ideas as well and use them with friends. (We would love to know of your ideas that you have found worked in your community). The more people you can involve the more the impact :o)

- ★ **Learn.** Learn about the species, forests and other ecosystems around you. How do they affect your health and well-being. You can find information in your school, library or local government office. Better yet - go for a walk in the woods and learn about forests through personal experience!
- ★ **Be aware.** What we use or "consume" can increase deforestation. Eat less "carbon-intensive" food (e.g. foods that need lots of resources and energy to produce and transport) such as beef. Eat fewer foods that have direct negative impacts on forest biodiversity such as palm oil. Calculate your ecological footprint and take action to reduce it.
- ★ **Act.** Once you better understand forest issues, it's time to take action. Pick something fun and useful ... like planting a native tree species. Limit your use of goods that use forest resources. Be sure to use, reuse, repair and recycle things.
- ★ **Share.** Tell other people about your experiences. Encourage your family and friends to help you protect forests. Or, join an environmental or youth group that works on forest issues.
- ★ Take part in the challenge badges which have already been developed for:
 - a. Biodiversity: www.fao.org/climatechange/youth/68784/en/
 - b. Climate change: www.fao.org/climatechange/youth/63380/en/
 - c. Forest (launched at the end of 2011)

CHALLENGE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. How many species of birds, insects, fungi, and microorganisms can live in a single tree of the Amazon rain forest, considered to have the largest collection of living plants and animal species in the world?
 - a) 100 species
 - b) 1000 species
 - c) 2000 species
2. What parts of the plant can you eat?
 - a) Bark and stalks
 - b) Leaves and flowers
 - c) Roots and seeds

- d) All of the above
3. Which five countries have 53% of the world's forests?
- a) Brazil, Canada, China, Russia, USA
 - b) Australia, Brazil, Russia, South Africa, USA
 - c) Brazil, China, Canada, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya
 - d) Australia, China, Canada, Russia, USA
4. What does the acronym REDD stand for?
- a) Reduce exploitation, desertification and deforestation
 - b) Really exploited and degraded deciduous forests
 - c) Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
5. Which of the following species was *not* recently discovered in the Borneo rainforests?
- a) Lungless frog
 - b) Long-tailed ninja slug
 - c) Flame-coloured snake
 - d) Psychedelic frogfish
6. What percentage of forests that originally covered the Earth has been lost?
- a) 40%
 - b) 60%
 - c) 80%
7. Which animals are *not* found in tropical forests?
- a) Pink river dolphin
 - b) Cross river gorilla
 - c) Camel
 - d) Blood python
8. What is a primary forest?
- a) A forest that hasn't yet made it to secondary or high school
 - b) Forests made up of native species
 - c) Forests that haven't been too disturbed by human activities
 - d) b and c
9. How tall is the world's tallest tree?
- a) 100m
 - b) 115.55m
 - c) 203.2m
 - d) 213.44m
10. How old is the world's oldest tree?
- a) 102 years old
 - b) 2,098 years old

c) 4,850 years old

ANSWERS

1. You can find up to 2000 species of birds, insects, fungi, and microorganisms in a single tree of the Amazon rain forest. Incredible, isn't it!
2. You eat many different parts of plants: stalks, seeds, flowers, leaves, bark and even roots. Carrots and potatoes, for example, are roots; cauliflower and broccoli are actually the flowers of the plant; corn, rice and peas are seeds; celery is the stalk; lettuce and spinach are leaves and fruits such as apples, pears or peaches grow on trees.
3. Brazil, Canada, China, Russia, USA
4. REDD stands for "Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation". REDD-plus is special way that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) rewards people in developing countries for saving their forests instead of cutting them down. The "plus" is the short way of saying "the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries".
5. The psychedelic frogfish was discovered in Indonesia.
6. 80% of the forests that originally covered the Earth have been cleared. Between 1980 and 1995 9.1% of forest cover was lost in developing countries. If deforestation continues at its current rate many species will be extinct.
7. You can find camels in the desert, not tropical forests. Pink river dolphins live in the Amazon rainforest. Cross river gorillas live in the Congo basin. Blood pythons live in Southeast Asia.
8. A primary forest is composed of native species where ecological processes have not been much disturbed by human activities. While 36% of the total forest area is primary forest, they are at risk due to logging and agricultural expansion.
9. The tallest tree in the world is a coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) that stands 115.55m tall in California, USA!
10. The oldest tree in the world is a great bristlecone pine (*Balfouriana*) named 'Methuselah' that is about 4,850 years old!

Sources: Food and Agriculture Organization, Convention on Biological Diversity, TUNZA United Nations Environment Programme and World Wild Fund.

OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

International Year of Forests

www.un.org/en/events/iyof2011/

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

www.fao.org/climatechange/youth

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)

www.wagggsworld.org

Convention on Biological Diversity, IDB 2011

www.cbd.int/idb/2011

Convention on Biological Diversity, Kids

<http://kids.cbd.int/>

Tunza for children, United Nations Environment Programme

www.unep.org/tunza/children/inner.asp?ct=env_issues

Tunza for youth, United Nations Environment Programme

www.unep.org/tunza/youth/What_you_always_wanted_to_know/State_of_%20Environment/biodiversity/index.asp

United Nations Cyber School Bus

www.cyberschoolbus.un.org/