

UNIT- III

NATURAL VEGETATION AND WILD LIFE

CONTENT

- Concept of vegetation.
- Concept of flora and fauna.
- Types of vegetation of the world.-
Tropical, Temperate, polar, desert,
Mountain
- Forest and wild life
- Conservation of forest and wild life

NATURAL VEGETATION



NATURAL VEGETATION: The natural vegetation of an area means the plants that grow naturally in that area. Large parts of the world's vegetation, however, have been modified by human activities. Thus the term "natural vegetation" includes both plants, natural as well as modified.

Flora and Fauna

Flora and fauna refer to plant and wildlife, respectively. The indigenous plant and wildlife of a geographical region is often referred to as that region's flora and fauna. Both are collective terms, referring to groups of plant or wildlife specific to a region or a time period. For example, the flora and fauna of a warm region may consist of tropical to warm-temperate vegetation and exotic species of birds.

By definition, *flora* is a word of Latin origin referring to Flora, the goddess of flowers. Flora can refer to a group of plants, a disquisition of a group of plants, as well as to bacteria. Flora is the root of the word *floral*, which means pertaining to flowers. *Fauna* can refer to the animal life or classification of animals of a certain region, time period, or environment. Fauna is also of Latin origin. In Roman Mythology Fauna was the sister of Faunus, a good spirit of the forest and plains.

The flora and fauna of any given region is usually explained in biological terms to include the genus and species of plant and animal life, their preferred growing or breeding habits, and their connection to one another in the environment as well. In addition to geographical

groupings, environment also helps further classifications of flora and fauna. For example, aquatic flora and fauna of a region refers to the plant and animal life found in the waters in or surrounding a geographic region.

Natural vegetation varies from region to region on the earth; depending on the availability of sunlight and rainfall. Plants occur in distinct groups in areas having similar climatic conditions. A region with naturally occurring flora and fauna, plants and animal life that have adapted them to their environment forms a **biome**. The word biome is a short term of biological home. Biome may be defined as a large natural eco-system wherein we study the total assemblage plant and animal communities.

Meaning of Natural Vegetation

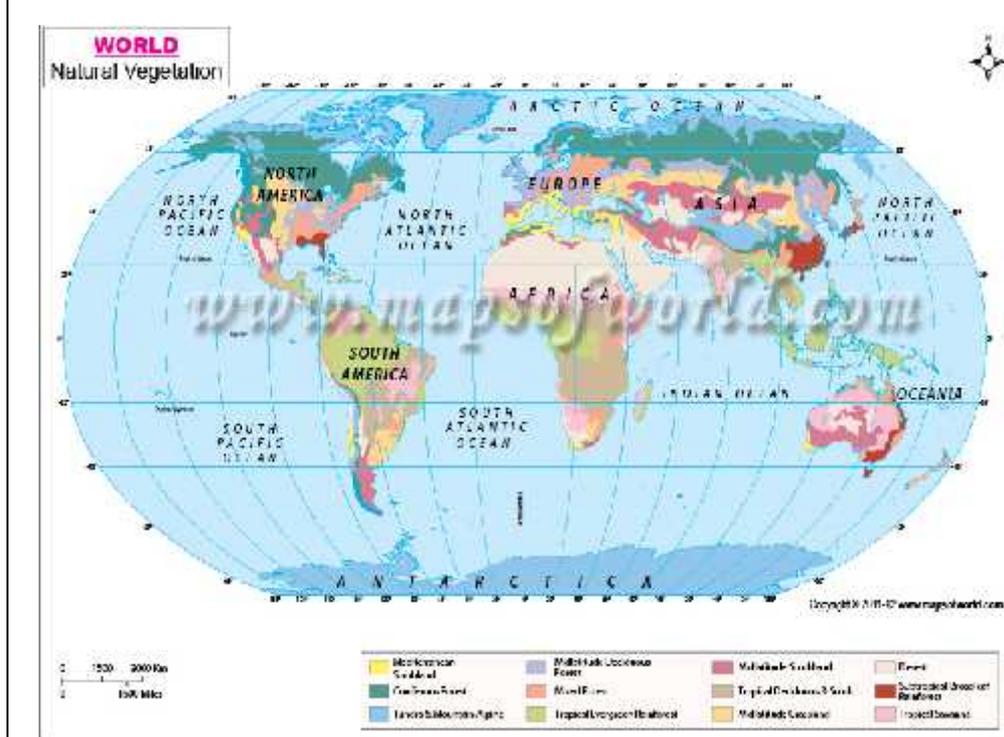
In the biosphere living beings are inter-related and interdependent on each other for survival. This life supporting system is known as the **Ecosystem**. Vegetation and wildlife are valuable resources. Plants provide us timber, give shelter to animals, produce oxygen we breathe, protect soil so essential for growing crops, act as shelter belts, help in storage of underground water, give us fruits, nuts, latex, turpentine oil, gum, and also the paper that is so essential for our studies. There are innumerable uses of plants and you can add some more. Wildlife includes animals, birds, insects as well as the aquatic life forms. They provide us milk, meat, hides and wool. Insects like bees provide us honey, help in pollination of flowers and have an important role to play as decomposers in the ecosystem. The birds feed on insects and act as decomposers as well.

The major vegetation types of the earth may be grouped as **forests, grasses and shrubs**. Their distribution around the world is governed mainly by the availability of moisture. India and the world have a wide variety of natural vegetation ranging from tropical evergreen forests to desert vegetation.

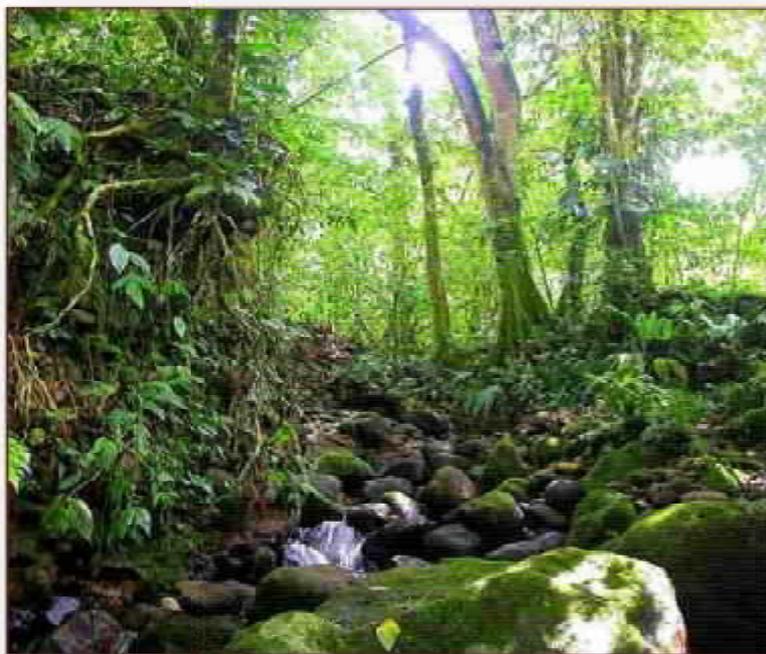
The natural vegetation can be classified as follows

- 1. Tropical Forests**
- 2. Temperate Forests**
- 3. Polar vegetation**
- 4. Desert vegetation**
- 5. Mountain vegetation.**

WORLD VEGETATION TYPES



Tropical Rain Forest



Tropical rain forests are home to more species than all other land biomes combined. The leafy tops of tall trees – extending up to 70 meters above the forest floor – form a dense

covering called a canopy. In the shade below the canopy, second layer of shorter trees and vines forms an understory. Organic matter that falls to the forest floor quickly decomposes and the nutrients are recycled.

- **Abiotic factors:** hot and wet year-round; thin, nutrient-poor soils
- **Dominant plants:** broad-leaved evergreen trees; ferns; large woody vines and Climbing plants; orchids and bromeliads
- **Dominant wildlife:** herbivores such as sloths, tapirs, and capybaras; predators Such as jaguars; anteaters; monkeys; birds such as toucans, parrots, and parakeets; Insects such as butterflies, ants, and beetles; piranhas and other freshwater fishes; Reptiles such as frogs, Caymans, boa constrictors, and anacondas.

Geographic distribution: parts of South and Central America, Southeast Asia

Parts of Africa, southern India, and northeastern Australia .Tropical rainforest is an ecosystem type that occurs roughly within the latitudes 28 degrees north or south of the equator (in the equatorial zone between the Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn). This ecosystem experiences high average temperatures and a significant amount of rainfall. Rainforests can be found in Asia, Australia, Africa, South America, and Central America, Mexico and on many of the Pacific, Caribbean, and Indian Ocean islands.

Geographic distribution (Indian sub-continent) –Tropical rain forests are found in regions of very high annual rain fall exceeding 300 cms with very brief dry season, southern parts of Western Ghats of Kerala Karnataka and Northern hills are covered with such type of vegetation. Northern Province of Sri Lanka has also Tropical rain forests. This eco region covers the arid portions of the Deccan Plateau, extending across the Indian states of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu to the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. Only small patches of natural habitat remain as most of the region has been cleared for grazing land.

The tropical rainforests are, indeed, located in the **tropics**, a band around the **equator** from **23.5° N** (the Tropic of Cancer) to **23.5° S** (the Tropic of Capricorn).

Because the Earth tilts 23.5 degrees on its axis as it travels around the sun, at some point in the year (the **solstices**, June 22nd in the north, December 22nd in the south) the sun will be directly overhead on one of these lines. At the **equinoxes** the sun is directly over the equator

Another biome similar to the tropical rain forest is the **cloud forest**. These forests form on mountain tops in the tropics

Tropical Dry Forest:-



Tropical dry forests grow in places where rainfall is highly seasonal rather than year-round. During the dry season, nearly all the trees drop their leaves to conserve water. A tree that sheds its leaves during a particular season each year is called deciduous.

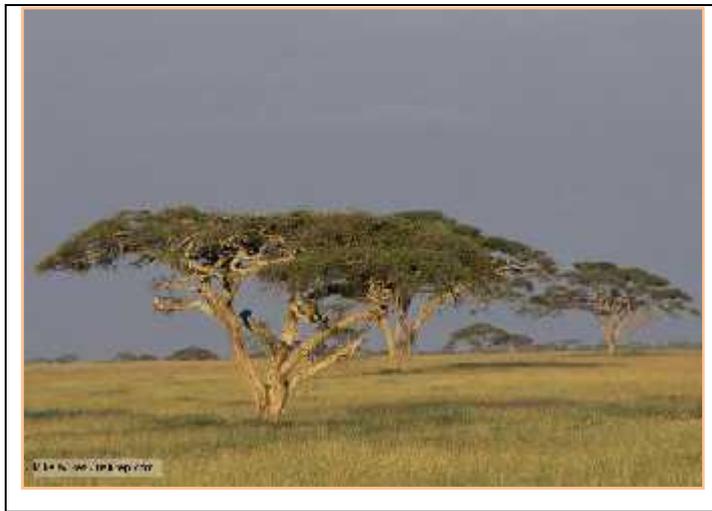
- **Abiotic factors:** generally warm year-round; alternating wet and dry seasons; rich soils subject to erosion
- **Dominant plants:** tall, deciduous trees that form a dense canopy during the wet season; drought-tolerant orchids and bromeliads; aloes and other succulents
- **Dominant wildlife:** tigers; monkeys; herbivores such as elephants, Indian rhinoceros, hog deer; birds such as great pied hornbill, pied harrier, and spot-billed pelican; insects such as termites; reptiles such as snakes and monitor lizards

Geographic distribution: Tropical dry forests are found in some parts of Africa, South and Central America, Mexico, India, Australia, and tropical islands. This forest type typically experiences an annual hard dry season.

Rainfall-The average rainfall is sufficient enough to promote growth of trees, but these trees and plant species must be able to withstand periods of low precipitation and moisture. Many of the tree species in dry forests are also deciduous. During the driest months these species

drop their leaves much in the same manner that northern deciduous forest species lose their leaves in the fall and winter. This dry season leaf-drop reduces the water needs of the plant, as there is no transpiration through the leaves. Much of the dry forests of Mexico and Central America have been converted into cattle ranches and planted with exotic grasses. These introduced plant species provide foliage for livestock, but in turn, change the habitat, and displace native forest species. These native plant species are what comprise the forest habitat needed for both the plants and animals that form the dry forest ecosystems.

Tropical Savanna



Receiving more seasonal rainfall than deserts but less than tropical dry forests, tropical savannas, or grasslands, are characterized by a cover of grasses. Savannas are spotted with isolated trees and small groves of trees and shrubs. Compact soils, fairly frequent fires, and the action of large animals such as rhinoceros prevent some savanna areas from turning into dry forests.

- **Abiotic factors:** warm temperatures; seasonal rainfall; compact soil; frequent fires set by lightning.
- **Dominant plants:** tall, perennial grasses; sometimes drought-tolerant and fire resistant trees or shrubs.
- **Dominant wildlife:** predators such as lions, leopards, cheetahs, hyenas, and jackals; aardvarks; herbivores such as elephants, giraffes, antelopes, and zebras; baboons; birds such as eagles, ostriches, weaver birds, and storks; insects such as termites'.

Geographic distribution: large parts of eastern Africa, southern Brazil, Northern Australia.

TEMPERATE FORESTS

Temperate forests contain a mixture of deciduous and coniferous trees. Coniferous trees, or conifers, produce seed-bearing cones and most have leaves shaped like needles.

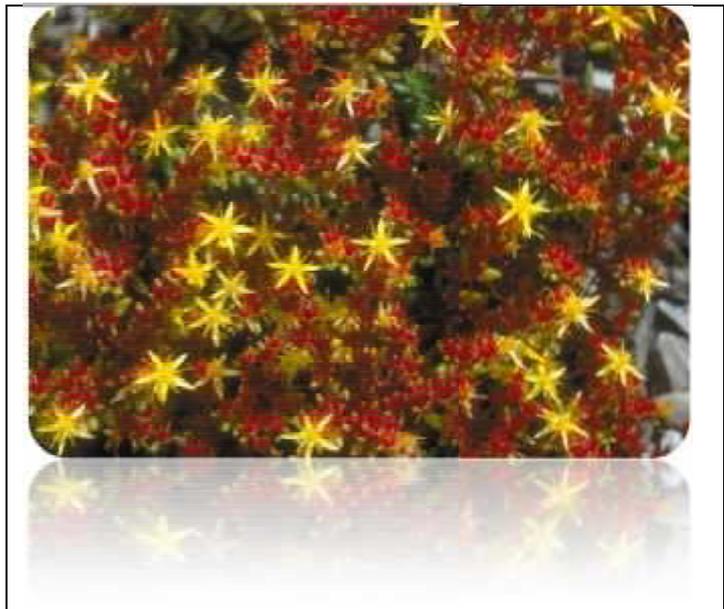
These forests have cold winters that halt plant growth for several months. In autumn, the deciduous trees shed their leaves. In the spring, small plants burst out of the ground and flower. Soils of temperate forests are often rich in humus, a material formed from decaying leaves and other organic matter that makes soil fertile.

- **Abiotic factors:** cold to moderate winters; warm summers; year-round precipitation; fertile soils

- **Dominant plants:** broadleaf deciduous trees; some conifers; flowering shrubs; herbs; a ground layer of mosses and ferns

- **Dominant wildlife:** Deer; black bears; bobcats; nut and acorn feeders, such as squirrels; omnivores such as raccoons and skunks; numerous songbirds; turkeys

Geographic distribution: Eastern United States; Southeastern Canada; most of Europe; and parts of Japan, China, and Australia



Temperate Grassland : These grasslands are found in different continents under different names. In northern hemisphere, the grasslands are more extensive. In Eurasia they are called steppes. In Northern America, they are called prairies. In Argentina, they are called as pampas, in South Africa called Uildt and in Australia, these green lands known as Downs.



Characterized by a rich mix of grasses and under laid by some of the world's most fertile soils, temperate grasslands – such as plains and prairies – once covered vast areas of the Midwestern United States. Since the development of the steel plow, however, most have been converted to agricultural fields. Periodic fires and heavy grazing by large herbivores maintain the characteristic plant community.

- **Abiotic factor:** warm to hot summers; cold winters; moderate, seasonal precipitation; fertile soils; occasional fires.
- **Dominant plants:** lush, perennial grasses and herbs; most are resistant to Drought, fire, and cold.
- **Dominant wildlife:** predators such as coyotes and badgers -- historically included wolves and grizzly bears; herbivores such as mule deer, pronghorn antelope, rabbits, prairie dogs, and cattle -- historically included bison; birds such as hawks, owls, bobwhite, prairie chicken, mountain plover; reptiles such as snakes; insects such as ants and grasshoppers .

Temperate Woodland and Shrublands:

This biome is characterized by a semiarid climate and a mix of shrub communities and open woodlands. In the open woodlands, large areas of grasses and wildflowers such as poppies are interspersed with oak trees. Communities that are dominated by shrubs are also known as chaparral. The growth of dense, low plants that contain flammable oil makes fires a constant threat

Abiotic factors: hot, dry summers; cool, moist winters; thin, nutrient-poor soils; Periodic fires.

Dominant plants: woody evergreen shrubs with small, leathery leaves; fragrant, oily herbs that grow during winter and die in summer.

Geographic distribution: Western coasts of North and South America, areas around the Mediterranean Sea, South Africa, and Australia.



POLAR

The tundra is characterized by permafrost, a layer of permanently frozen subsoil. During the short, cool summer, the ground thaws to a depth of a few centimeters and becomes soggy and wet. In winter, the topsoil freezes again. This cycle of thawing and freezing, which rips and crushes plant roots, is one reason that tundra plants are small and stunted. Cold temperatures, high winds; the short growing season, and humus-poor soils also limit plant height



- **Abiotic factors:** strong winds; low precipitation; short and soggy summers; long, cold, and dark winters; poorly developed soils; permafrost
- **Dominant plants:** ground-hugging plants such as mosses, lichens, sedges, and short grasses
- **Dominant wildlife:** a few resident birds and mammals that can withstand the harsh conditions; migratory waterfowl, shore bird

Geographic distribution: northern North America, Asia, and Europe.

DESERT VEGETATION



The defining characteristic of a desert is that it is dry. Depending on its geographical location, the annual precipitation in a desert varies from half an inch to as much as 15 inches. Rainfall is usually much localized, and although it is frequently seasonal, it is difficult to predict when or where it will occur. At times in the Atacama Desert in Chile, years have passed with no measurable rainfall at all. However, that is not generally the case.

Deserts can be either hot such as the Australian Desert or cold such as the Gobi Desert. As with all biomes, the desert climate is determined by geographic conditions. Geographic conditions such as location, high atmospheric pressure, and proximity of mountain ranges determine just what type of desert it is.

Deserts may occur along the coast such as the Atacama and Namib deserts or in the interior of continents such as the Great Basin and Australian deserts, which are far from any source of water. Coastal deserts are located on west coasts of continents between 20° to 30° Latitude. Prevailing winds blow in an easterly pattern and prevent the moisture from moving onto the land. Semiarid deserts, like the Great Basin Desert, are not only located far from moisture, but are frequently associated with high mountain ranges that produce a rain shadow effect. The rain shadow effect prevents available moisture from reaching the area. The great Gobi Desert of Mongolia has little rainfall because the Himalayan Mountains prevent rainfall from moving into this region.

Because all deserts are dry, they have large daily temperature variations. Temperatures are high during the day because there is very little moisture in the air to block the Sun's rays from

reaching Earth. Once the Sun goes down, the heat absorbed during the day quickly escapes back into space. High daytime temperatures and low nighttime temperatures make survival in the desert very difficult.

Desert: Animals

At first glance, deserts may appear to be without animal life. However, deserts are home to many reptiles, insects, birds, and small mammals. The kangaroo mice of North America and the bilgy and red kangaroo of Australia are just a few examples of small mammals that live in the desert. Most large animals have not adapted to desert life. Their size prevents them from finding shelter from the Sun's heat and they are not able to store water for future use. Animals that do survive in the desert have developed a number of adaptations.

Desert: Plants

Short grasses, sagebrush, creosote bushes, and cacti are just a few of the plants that can be found in the desert. Plant abundance and variety are determined by the geographic location of the desert. Although short grasses can be found in nearly all desert locations, the saguaro cactus is unique to the Sonoran Desert, and the spin flex is associated with the Australian Desert.

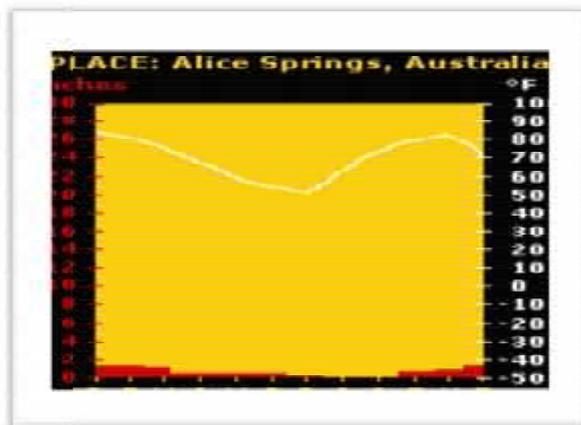
Common physical adaptation is the ability of desert plants to store water in their roots, stems, leaves, or fruit. Plants that store water in this way are referred to as succulents, and they include cacti.

Desert plants retain moisture by limiting water loss through their leaf surface. Many plants accomplish this by adapting the size, sheen, or texture of their leaves. Small leaves or spines limit the amount of surface area exposed to the drying heat. Glossy leaves reflect the Sun's radiant heat reducing leaf temperatures and evaporation rates. Waxy leaves prevent moisture from escaping. Water escapes from leaves through the stomata, or leaf pores. A behavioral adaptation used by some plants is to only open leaf pores during the night when air temperature is cool and evaporation rate is low



Picture of Oman - sparse desert vegetation, incense trees

The **Thar Desert in India** presents a wonderful picture of natural vegetation in India. The trees in this desert are short and stout, and stunted by the scorching sun. Some of the most common trees in this region include Cacti, Reunjha, Khejra, Kanju, etc.



MOUNTAIN OR ALPINE VEGETATION

Different types of vegetation are found in the Himalayan Mountains. The vegetation changes with altitude and rainfall. The lower regions of the Himalayas have tropical evergreen forests up to 1,500 meters. Teak, Sal and rose-wood are the important trees. Temperate forests are found between 1,500 to 3,650 meters. They are also called coniferous forests. The important trees of this vegetation are silver fir, oak, spruce, laurels, chestnut etc. Grasslands are found in altitude between 3,650 to 4,875 meters. Rhododendron, willow, juniper and primrose trees are found here. Flowering plants are found in Alpine meadows. During summer, at still higher altitude lichen and moss are found. Above 6,000 meters, the region is covered with snow and hence no vegetation is found.



Flowering Plants

Mountains exist on all the continents of the earth. Many of the world's mountains lie in two great belts. The Circum-Pacific chain, often called the Ring of Fire. Mountains are usually found in groups called chains or ranges, although some stand alone. A mountain biome is very cold and windy. The higher the mountain, the colder and windier the environment. There is also less oxygen at high elevations. The animals of this biome have adapted to the cold, the lack of oxygen, and the rugged landscape. They include the mountain goat, ibex (wild goat), sheep, mountain lion, puma, and yak. All of them are excellent climbers, which mean they can move freely in the steep, rocky landscape. Types of plants vary depending on geographic location and altitude. The vegetation on the lower slopes largely depends on which climate zone the mountain is in. The foothills may be covered in broadleaved forests. These change to needle leaf trees (coniferous trees) like spruce and pine at on the upper slopes (higher altitudes). As you climb higher up a mountain it gets colder and the trees eventually thin out and disappear. When it gets too cold for trees to grow, it is called a **timberline**. The highest parts of the mountain support only sparse grasses and low-growing alpine flowers which can withstand the harsh conditions. If the mountain is high enough even this vegetation disappears and the peak is bare rock and perhaps covered in snow and ice.



Mangrove forests: These forests are formed due to tides. They are found along the deltas and estuaries of rivers that are subjected to tides. Pendent roots (like those of Banyan tree) are

the characteristics of mangrove forests. The deltas of rivers Ganges, Godavari, Mahanadi and Krishna have these forests. In the Ganges delta, there are plenty of Sundari trees and the forests are known as '**Sunderbans**'. These trees are used for making furniture and boats. These forests also yield firewood and tanning material. Canes, palms and "Kendale" trees are also found here.



TABLE I
LONS08 vegetation classification.

| Number | Shorthand name | Description |
|--------|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | tropical evergreen forest | tropical broadleaved evergreen trees |
| 2 | temperate forest | temperate deciduous trees |
| 3 | mixed forest | temperate/boreal broadleaved and needleleaved trees |
| 4 | boreal evergreen forest | boreal needleleaved evergreen trees |
| 5 | boreal seasonal forest | boreal needleleaved deciduous trees |
| 6 | savanna | tropical broadleaved raingreen trees with grass groundcover |
| 7 | grasslands | temperate grass groundcover only |
| 8 | shrubland | tropical broadleaved shrubs with grass groundcover |
| 9 | semi-desert | tropical/temperate broadleaved shrubs with bare soil |
| 10 | tundra | boreal/alpine dwarf trees and shrubs with grass groundcover |
| 11 | desert | bare soil |
| 13 | tropical seasonal forest | tropical broadleaved raingreen trees |
| 20 | ice | permanent ice |

KNOW MORE....

FOREST AND WILDLIFE



IMPORTANCE OF FORESTS: Forests are a very important natural resource. They provide raw materials to industries such as timber, bamboo, cane, gum, medicinal plants, shrubs etc. They provide fodder to cattle. In addition to these benefits, there are other advantages which are of great importance. They are as follows:

- 1) Forests provide moisture and lower the temperature,
- 2) They prevent soil erosion and preserve the fertility of the soil,
- 3) Forests provide home for many animals and birds, thus preserving bio-diversity,
- 4) Forests help to preserve the ecological balance.

Forests are depleted due to large-scale cutting of trees due to industrial development, cultivation of crops, over-grazing by cattle, construction of railways and roadways, irrigation and power projects. This depletion of forests has resulted in floods and soil erosion. Due to increase in population, demand for forest products has increased. So, there is great need to protect forests. By planting more and more trees, we have to conserve forests.

CONSERVATION OF FORESTS:

Around 80% of the earth's land area is not formally protected and consists of 'multi-layered' forested landscapes that support people, biodiversity, agricultural activity and industry, making them highly productive. Forests have a value for all these groups, locally and

globally. It is vital that forest conservation understands the multiple perspectives and competing demands on all levels and that certain trade-offs will have to be made.

Over 40% of the world's oxygen is produced by rainforests.

Forests are home to 80% of the world's terrestrial biodiversity.

The livelihoods of 1.6 billion people depend on forests.

More than a quarter of modern medicines, worth an estimated US\$ 108 billion a year, originate from tropical forest plants.

The carbon in forests exceeds the amount of carbon currently in the atmosphere.

International Union for Conservation of Nature And Natural Resources

Working with communities, government agencies, NGOs and businesses, IUCN's Forest Conservation Programme supports the development of locally-driven, sustainable measures that will improve forest management.

IUCN learns from experience about how to negotiate a balance between human and environmental needs and these lessons are being fed into national and international policy. One of its key initiatives is Livelihoods and Landscapes through which dozens of projects are underway across Africa, Asia and South America. Lessons from Livelihoods and Landscapes are feeding into the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration, of which IUCN is a key partner.

There is growing recognition of the role of forests in storing carbon and combating climate change. The emerging approach of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) is gaining acceptance at the international level. The challenge now, and one that IUCN is playing a key role in addressing is to make sure that REDD delivers benefits to both people and biodiversity.

IUCN is also central to an emerging initiative called Growing Forest Partnerships (GFP). Funded by the World Bank, this supports partnerships and initiatives developed by forest-dependent people and those who use manage or regulate forests. Around the world, local people, governments, businesses and local organizations are finding fruitful ways of working together but big challenges remain: local and indigenous communities are marginalized in

decisions over natural resource use; large organizations working on forest conservation struggle to co-ordinate their joint work; while smallholders and forest communities often lack clear land rights and access to markets.

In response GFP is establishing a wider platform for civil society dialogue involving the various stakeholders about the approach toward developing forestry policy at the national and local levels. Using this partnership and dialogue approach allows IUCN and its partners to tackle the root causes of the world's most pressing issues, including poverty, biodiversity

The Indian Perspective

Forests are a natural gift to humankind. Human beings first lived in forests. Destruction of forests results in soil erosion, floods, drought etc. Hence, realizing the importance of forests, the Central Government has formed a national forest policy in 1952. It has a threefold plan namely:

- 1) Nationalization of forest operations.
- 2) Protection and operation of wild life and environment and social forestry.
- 3) Commercialization of industrial forest operation.

WILD LIFE

India has a variety of wild life because of its varied relief features such as climate and natural vegetation. There are about 80,000 species of wild animals, birds and fishes. India has some rare animals which are not found in any other part of the world. e.g. Swamp deer, Chausinga (four-horn antelope), Kashmir stag, black buck and Neelgai. The spotted deer of India is very beautiful. Horned rhinoceros is found only in India and Nepal. Some of the carnivorous animals such as lions, tigers and leopards are found in our forests. The Gir forests of Saurashtra are the natural habitat of lions. The famous Bengal tiger is found in the Sunderbans. The national animal of India is the Tiger. The Himalayas are the home of several interesting animals, like the wild sheep, yak, the mountain goats, the ibex, the shrew, the tapu, the panda and the snow leopard. Of the many species of monkeys, the langur is the most common.

India has a variety of bird life. The falcon (hawk), geese, mynahs, parrots, pigeons, Cranes, hornbills, sunbirds and kingfishers are found in forests and marshy lands. The Peacock is our national bird. Special efforts are made to protect the endangered species of wild life. National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries have been opened in order to preserve wild life. There are 73 national parks, 447 wild life sanctuaries and 17 tiger reserves.

Wildlife Conservation

The need for conservation of wildlife in India is often questioned because of the apparently incorrect priority in the face of direct poverty of the people. However Article 48 of the Constitution of India specifies that, "The state shall endeavor to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country" and Article 51-A states that "it shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures." Large and charismatic mammals are important for wildlife tourism in India and several national parks and wildlife sanctuaries cater to these needs. Project Tiger Started in 1972 is a major effort to conserve the tiger and its habitats. At the turn of the 20th century, one estimate of the tiger population in India placed the figure at 40,000, yet an Indian tiger census conducted in 2008 revealed the existence of only 1,411 tigers.

In 1970, a national ban on tiger hunting was imposed, and in 1972 the Wildlife Protection Act came into force. The framework was then set up to formulate a project for tiger conservation with an ecological approach.

Launched on April 1, 1973, Project Tiger has become one of the most successful conservation ventures in modern history. The project aims at tiger conservation in specially constituted 'tiger reserves' which are representative of various bio-geographical regions falling within India. It strives to maintain a viable tiger population in their natural environment. Today, there are 39 Project Tiger wildlife reserves in India covering an area more than of 37,761 km².

Project Elephant, though less known, started in 1992 and works for elephant protection in India. Most of India's rhinos today survive in the Kaziranga National Park.



Asiatic Lion



Brahminy Kite



Brown Fish-owl



Red Panda

CBSE-*i*
CLASS-VII GEOGRAPHY
STUDENTS' MANUAL



Indian Cobra



Indian Gazelle



Indian Peafowl



Indian Rhinoceros



Indian Wild Dog



Lion-tailed
Macaque



Pariah Kite



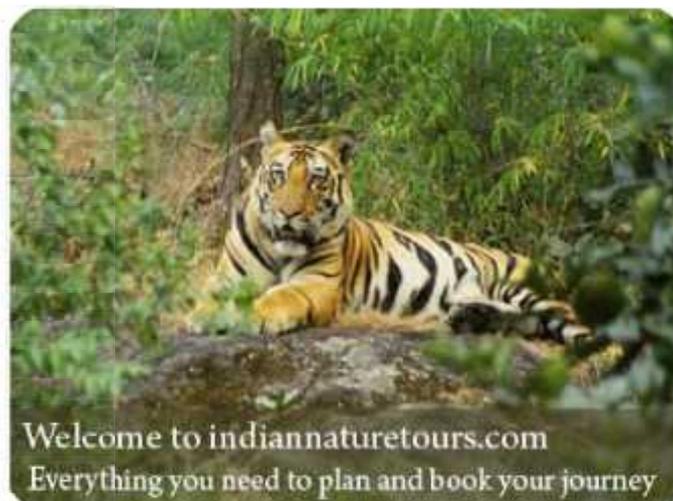
Ring-necked
Parakeet



Royal
Tiger



Bengal **Shikra**



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OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES

Enlist the names of some endangered species of wild life in India. Collect more information and pictures about them to share it with your friends.

OR

Collect pictures of wildlife of any one continent and prepare a report and a collage on it.

OR

Carry out a conservation campaign in your school with the help of your friends.

OR

Correlation of the forests with environment

OR

A colorful scrap book on endangered species.

WEBSITES

- <http://www.wiziq.com/tutorial/127941-Natural-vegetation-and-wildlife>
- [^ Encyclopedia of World Geography By Peter Haggett](#)
- [Jordan - Geography and Environment - Wildlife and Vegetation](#)
- www.kinghussein.gov.jo/geo_env2.html
- [Managing Natural Vegetation - Alabama Cooperative Extension ...](#)
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VknXwVLhYs&feature=player_embedded
- www.aces.edu/forestry/wildlife/managingvegetation.php - United States
- www.slideshare.net/sk_prince/afforestation-in-india - United States

References:

- Longman vistas STD VIII- social science.
- Total geography STD X -I.C.S.E-Rachel & Sequeire
- New age CCE STD X social science-new age publishers.
- Golden series CCE STD X
- Time, space and people integrated social science std viii

WORKSHEET NO.1

NAME : _____ **CLASS:** _____ **SECTION:** _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | India is one of the world's richest countries in terms of : |
| a) | mineral resource b)forest resources |
| c) | biological diversity d)all the above |
| 2 | Forests that do not shed their leaves at the same time in any one season are: |
| a) | Desert b) temperate |
| c) | Evergreen d)none of these |
| 3 | Which of the following trees is not found in the tropical evergreen forests? |
| a) | rosewood b)wattle |
| c) | oak d)eucalyptus |
| 4 | Which of these animals is found in the tropical grasslands? |
| a) | Giraffe , elephant b) Reindeer ,mink |
| c) | Camel , rat d) Fishes , horses |
| 5 | State the different types of natural vegetation in the world. |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| 6 | Distinguish between, tropical evergreen and tropical deciduous forests. |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| 7 | Why are tropical rain forests called Archetypal forests? Give reasons. |
| | |
| | |
| 8 | Give any special characteristic of any kind of vegetation that you have come across? |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| 9 | On the world map shade the following regions: i. Tropical Evergreen forest ii. Tropical deciduous forest iii. Savanna | |

10 Complete the table:

| | | vegetation type | climatic conditions | Geographical Distribution | important trees |
|--|--|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| | | Tropical evergreen forest | | | |
| | | Tropical dry deciduous forest | | | |
| | | Savanna | | | |

WORKSHEET NO.2

NAME : _____ **CLASS:** _____ **SECTION:** _____

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| 1 | | Identify the animals shown in the picture. In which type of vegetation do we find them? <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">a) _____ b) _____</p> |
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| | | |
| 2 | Temperate forests contain a mixture of the following trees | |
| a) | Deciduous and coniferous trees | b) evergreen and semiarid trees |
| c) | Moist tropical trees and subtropical trees | d) none of these |
| 3 | Mountain vegetation is the habitat of | |
| a) | Ibex (wild goat), | b) Asiatic lions |
| c) | Hawks, | d) Hyenas, |
| 4 | Mosses and Lichens are found in : | |
| a) | Tundra vegetation | b) Desert vegetation |
| c) | Temperate grasslands | d) None of the above |
| | | |
| 5 | What are the two climatic factors that determine the type of vegetation that grows in a region? Give one example of each. | |
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| | | |
| 6 | Tell us why. | |
| a. | Desert animals survive without food for a long time. | |
| | | |
| | | |
| b. | It is necessary to protect and preserve our natural environment. | |
| | | |
| c. | Some animals take a long winter sleep. | |
| | | |
| d. | Desert vegetation has short thorny seeds. | |
| | | |
| 7 | Identify the following leaves/plants and also mention the vegetation to which they belong: | |



a) _____



b) _____



c) _____



d) _____



e) _____ f) _____

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| | | |
| 8 | | Why is it becoming increasingly important to conserve natural vegetation? |
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| 9 | | Highlight the important features of the polar and desert vegetation. |
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| | | |
| 10 | | Complete the table for any two types of vegetation. |
| | | |
| | | Abiotic factors : |
| | | Dominant plants : |
| | | Dominant animals : |
| | | |
| 11 | | Give the chief characteristics of mountain type or Himalayan vegetation? |
| | | |

WORKSHEET -3

NAME : _____ **CLASS** _____ **SECTION** _____

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| | 1 | Among the following, which are the two migratory birds which came to India? |
| | a) | Siberian crane |
| | | b)vultures |
| | c) | Hawks |
| | | d)Flamingo |
| | 2 | Species which are in danger of extinction are called: |
| | a) | endangered species |
| | | b)vulnerable species |
| | c) | Normal species |
| | | d) rare species. |
| | 3 | Rearrange the following words to make sense: |
| | | LWID |
| | | LANIMA |
| | | RHECINOROS |
| | | EGITR |
| | | |
| | 4 | QUIZ |
| | | |
| | a) | I live in Sunder bans of West Bengal. I am not found anywhere else in India. Who am I? |
| | b) | The number of this wild animal has reduced to 1411. Name the animal. |
| | c) | I have not been spotted anywhere in India during the last 10 years. What name is given to me? |
| | d) | I run very fast. No other living being can compete with me. Who am I? |
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| | 5 | State the importance of forests. Enlist the three fold plan towards conservation of forests. |
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| 6 | | With regard to social forestry , answer the following |
| | | What is social forestry? |
| | | Give three features of social forestry. |
| | | Any four objectives. |
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| 7 | | “Human activities in several parts of the world have disturbed the natural habitats of many species.” Justify the statement giving examples. |
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| 8 | | “Destruction of forests and wild life is not only a biological loss but also a loss of cultural diversity”. Justify. |
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| 9 | | What is meant by afforestation? Explain the approach towards conservation. |
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| 10 | | State the nine sub-missions included in the programme of afforestation. |
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WORKSHEET - 4

NAME _____ **CLASS** _____ **SECTION** _____

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| | 1 | Give a brief account of the fauna in India |
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| | 2 | Write a note on good practices towards conserving forest and wild life. |
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| | 3 | How is wild life dependent on natural vegetation? |
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| | 4 | Name some of the programmes undertaken by the government to conserve forest and wild life |
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| | 5 | What does Article 51 of the constitution state towards protecting the wild life and forests of the country? |
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| | 6 | Quite a few species of animals and birds are endangered in the world, why? |
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| | 7 | At the international level mention few measures taken to protect forests and wild life. |
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| | 8 | Discuss briefly the main threats to flora and fauna. |

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| | 9 | State the features of the Wild Life Act (1972). |
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| | 10 | Mention the natural habitat and the regions, where the following animals are found :Elephants, wild asses ,lions ,tigers, snow leopards |
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| | 11 | Locate and label the following : |
| | | <p>A. Political map of India</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">i. Four National parks</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">ii. Four bird sanctuaries located in Maharashtra and Karnataka</p> <p>B. Physical map of the World</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">i. Two bird sanctuaries</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">ii. Two countries with Desert vegetation</p> |