



CONSERVATION

What is Conservation?

The act of preventing something from being lost, wasted, damaged or destroyed, especially due to the damaging effects of human activity, for the benefit of both present and future generations

There are several key areas of conservation:-

- 1. Forest Conservation** - the planning and maintaining of forested areas
- 2. Soil Conservation** - agricultural practices and land management focusing on ways to reduce soil erosion and preserve soil's nutritional quality
- 3. Biodiversity Conservation** - the practice of preserving the variety and variability of life on Earth
- 4. Energy Conservation** - the effort made to reduce the consumption of energy by using less of an energy service, to reduce the demand on the earth's natural resources, such as oil and gas
- 5. Water Conservation** - limited availability of clean and safe drinking water globally means water should be managed and used as efficiently as possible

Why Does Conservation Exist?

The practice of caring for Earth's natural resources (including air, water, soil, minerals, fuels, plants and animals) is vital so that all living things can benefit from them, both now and in the future. We often waste natural resources - air and water are polluted; animals are overhunted; forests are cleared, exposing land to weather damage; fertile soil is exhausted and eroded because of poor farming practices.

Sustainability

Sustainable development is a way of thinking about and organising how we live on Earth. People should be able to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy quality of life without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same. Our current mode and rate of development is not sustainable. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing our generation, with scientists predicting rising temperatures that will result in flooding, displacement and land loss.

Why is it a World Issue?

The population of human beings has grown enormously in the past two centuries and billions of people use up resources quickly. The continuation of life as we know it depends on the careful conservation of natural resources. This often conflicts with other needs e.g. livelihoods, housing, the expansion of hospitals and businesses. The benefits of development need to be weighed against the harm to plants and animals, the depletion of resources needed in the future and the damage to resources we use today.

It's normal to feel **powerless** when faced with the enormity of world conservation issues, but children need to know that small actions can make a big difference.

World Issue Link

Communication

Conflict



Issues

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