



Planting Trees Is Good!

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1. Planting trees is very good for you and your community. In this lesson you will learn why planting trees is good and how to plant a tree seed.

2. There are many reasons why it is a good idea to plant trees. Here are a few of them.

3. Trees can provide shade from the hot sun.

4. Trees can also provide shade for animals. This tree is a very good shape for animals to shelter under.

5. Now try to answer this question.

6. What is a good way of giving shade to your animals?

7. Build an extra room on your house,

8. or plant trees on your land?

9. Press a button now.

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10. Yes that is right. Planting trees is a cheap way of giving shelter to your animals.

11. Some trees can provide food for animals. This one is a tree which produces pods that animals like to eat.

12. They can also eat the leaves. It is a very good tree to plant.

13. If you have a forestry department in your area they will be able to tell you which trees will grow well.

14. Now here is a question for you.

15. Why do animals like some trees?

16. Because they are good to look at,

17. or because they produce good fruits and leaves to eat?

18. Press a button now.

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19. That's right. Trees can provide free food for animals.

20. These are the important parts of a tree.

21. This is the trunk of the tree.

22. These are the branches.

23. Here are the roots. They are usually under the ground and spread a long way from the tree.

24. Which picture shows the roots of a tree?

25. Press a button now.

26. That's right. Well done!

27. These are examples of the leaves of a tree.

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28. These are some examples of fruits of a tree.

29. These are some seeds from the fruits of trees.

30. Seeds can grow into new trees when planted in the ground.

31. Where do tree seeds come from?

32. The fruit of a tree,

33. or the sky?

34. Press a button now.

35. Yes. Trees produce fruit which have the seeds inside.

36. What happens to a tree seed when it is planted in the ground?

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37. It stops dogs barking,
38. or it can grow into a new tree?
39. Press a button now.
40. Good. A seed can grow into a new tree when it is planted in the ground.
41. Trees have roots under the ground which can help save water. When it rains the roots can help the soil to hold some of the rainwater and stop it from flowing away. This means that your house or village is less likely to get flooded after a rainstorm.
42. The roots of a tree also help keep the soil in place.
43. The roots of a tree will help stop the soil being washed away by heavy rain. This means that it is easier to grow vegetables and food crops in your garden.
44. Planting trees is good for everyone because it helps keep the soil in place and helps prevent flooding.

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45. What is a good way to help protect your house from flooding?

46. Plant trees in the surrounding area,

47. or build a fence around it?

48. Press a button now.

49. That's right. Planting trees around your house or village can help trap water and prevent flooding.

50. Why do trees help prevent flooding?

51. Because they stop rain from falling,

52. or because their roots help collect rainwater in the soil?

53. Press a button now.

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54. Yes that's right. Tree roots can help stop rainwater from flowing away and causing floods.

55. Why do the roots of a tree help farmers?

56. They can tie their animals to them,

57. or they help keep the soil good so vegetables grow well?

58. Press a button now.

59. That's right. Tree roots help keep the soil from blowing away.

60. When trees are cut down their roots die and the soil can be washed away by heavy rain.

61. When trees are cut down the soil can be blown away by the wind.

62. This can also happen when trees are burnt in bush fires.

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63. If a tree is cut or burnt down it must always be replaced with two more.
64. What can happen if too many trees are cut down?
65. Farming will be easier because there is more space to plant crops,
66. or farming may be more difficult because the soil can be blown or washed away?
67. Press a button now.
68. Yes! Trees can help keep the soil good.
69. There is another reason why trees can help you. Each year many trees lose all their leaves and these fall to the ground. The leaves become part of the soil. This improves the soil and vegetables will grow better.
70. When you grow vegetables some good things are taken out of the soil. These always need to be replaced and planting trees nearby can help to do this.

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71. Planting trees can help to give you and your family more food to eat by keeping the soil good, so this is another reason to plant trees!
72. Is it a good idea to clean up leaves that have fallen from trees?
73. Yes because it makes the area look good,
74. or no because the fallen leaves are good for the soil?
75. Press a button now.
76. That's right. Leaves can help make good soil for growing vegetables.
77. Some trees also provide families with wood to burn for cooking and heating. Half of all the people in the world use wood for cooking.
78. If you are using wood for cooking or heating you must try to plant new trees for the future.
79. If your family has enough land it is possible to replant trees so that there will always be enough wood for cooking and heating.

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80. Some trees grow faster than others and these can be good for fuel.
81. Why should you try to plant more trees?
82. To make sure your family has enough wood to cook with in the future,
83. or to help stop earthquakes?
84. Press a button now.
85. That's right. More trees planted now means more wood in the future.
86. Is it possible to replant enough trees to provide your family with enough fuel for cooking?
87. Yes,
88. or No?

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89. Press a button now.
90. That's right. If you have enough land and choose the right trees you will be able to have enough wood in the future.
91. Other good things that trees can provide are:
92. Material for buildings, things to sell in the market and fruit for you and your family.
93. It is a good idea to plant two trees every time one is cut down so that there will be more of these good things in the future.
94. Which of these good things comes from a tree?
95. Wood for building,
96. or plastic?
97. Press a button now.

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98. Yes - trees provide us with many good things including wood for building.
99. What should you do if you have to cut down a tree?
100. Keep quiet and don't tell anybody,
101. or plant two more to replace it?
102. Press a button now.
103. That's the right answer! Everybody should plant two trees everytime they cut down one.
104. If the area where you live has lots of trees and there is no space to plant new ones then try to keep it like that. Cut down trees only when necessary and replant 2 each time you cut down one!
105. Many communities are losing lots of trees because people don't plant new ones. This means that many people have to leave their homes because the crops do not grow so well anymore.

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106. Plant trees and help prevent this from happening in your area!
107. Why is it a good idea to plant a tree in the area where you live?
108. Because it helps to make the soil good and vegetables to grow well,
109. or because people will say good things about you if you do?
110. Press a button now.
111. Yes - good soil will help keep your community together.
112. So planting trees is good! Now it is time for you to learn how to plant your tree.
113. First you need to collect seeds from the trees that are already growing in your area. Trees produce seeds each year - often in fruits or pods like this.
114. They can be collected and kept for planting.

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115. You need to plant the seeds at the very beginning of the rains so they have plenty of water to grow.
116. How can you get tree seeds without spending money?
117. Steal them,
118. or collect them from the fruit of trees growing in the area where you live?
119. Press a button now.
120. That's right. Most trees produce seeds every year.
121. When is the best time to plant tree seeds?
122. On your birthday,
123. or at the beginning of the rains?

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124. Press a button now.

125. Yes, you are right. The seeds will have the water they need in the rainy season.

126. Some seeds with a hard outer casing need to be put in hot water and left for 1 day before planting.

127. Boil some water and let it cool for a few minutes until there is no steam coming off the surface of the water.

128. Now add the seeds you have collected and leave them in the water for 1 day.

129. After 1 day take the seeds out of the water. They are now ready to plant.

130. Should you put tree seeds in boiling water before planting them?

131. Yes,

132. or No?

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133. Press a button now.
134. That's right. Boiling water will kill seeds. They need to be put in water that is hot, but not boiling.
135. How long should the seeds be left in the water before planting?
136. 1 day,
137. or 1 minute?
138. Press a button now.
139. Correct. The seeds should be put in hot water and left for 1 day before planting.
140. Now you need to choose a place to plant your tree. Talk about this with your friends so that you can watch the tree grow together.
141. Trees can be planted close to other food crops. It is very good to plant trees on hills. The soil on hills can easily be washed away if there are no trees.

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142. Where is a good place to plant your tree?
143. On a rubbish dump,
144. or on a hillside near your home?
145. Press a button now.
146. That's right. A hillside is a good place to plant trees.
147. Should you tell anyone else where you have planted your tree?
148. Yes,
149. or No?
150. Press a button now.

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151. That's right. Your friends can help you watch the tree grow.

152. Now you need to prepare the place where you are going to plant your tree.

153. Make the soil soft by using a hoe.

154. Add some water to make the soil wet.

155. When you plant your tree should the soil be ...

156. wet,

157. or dry?

158. Press a button now.

159. Yes. Seeds need water to grow.

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160. When you plant your tree, the soil should be ...
161. hard,
162. or soft?
163. Press a button now.
164. Yes. Soft soil, well watered, will help the seed to grow.
165. Take four seeds and press each one down into the soil with your thumb so that the seeds are just below the surface of the soil.
166. Cover the seeds with some more soil.
167. Now press down with your foot to make sure the seed is completely surrounded by soil.

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168. Not all the seeds will grow, but if you plant 4 in the same place at least one should survive.
169. How many tree seeds should you plant in one place?
170. 40
171. or 4?
172. Press a button now.
173. Yes - 4 seeds will mean that at least one should grow.
174. How deep should you plant the seeds?
175. As deep as you can dig,
176. or just below the surface?

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177. Press a button now.

178. Yes. The seeds need to be near the surface of the ground but covered with soil.

179. Now pour water on to the place where the seed was planted so that the area around becomes wet. If a seed does not produce a tree it is usually because it has dried out. This is why it is important to plant the seed at the beginning of the rains.

180. Young trees need protection from animals and plants. Sometimes other plants can grow up quickly and cover the young tree so that it dies. It is important to make sure your tree has room to grow for the first few months.

181. Try to make sure that other plants do not grow too close to your tree.

182. Mark the place where you have planted your tree so that you and your friends can watch it grow.

183. Why should you pour water on to the seeds after you have planted them?

184. To make sure they do not dry out,

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185. or to make them clean?
186. Press a button now.
187. Good - seeds need water to grow and pouring water on them will give them a good start.
188. Will you need to help your tree after planting it?
189. Yes, it will need protecting from animals and other plants,
190. or no, it is strong enough to survive on its own?
191. Press a button now.
192. Well done! A new tree needs to be protected from animals and other plants.

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193. Sometimes more than one seed will grow in one place. After 4 weeks you will be able to see how many are growing in each place. You should carefully remove the smallest plants leaving the biggest one to grow.

194. Keep checking the tree as it grows and add some water if the rains stop for more than one week.

195. It is a good idea to protect your tree. This will stop animals eating it when it is too young to survive.

196. By the end of the rains your tree should be strong enough to survive.

197. What should you do if you find several seeds have grown in the same place?

198. Pull them all up and throw them away,

199. or carefully remove the smallest ones and leave the biggest one to grow?

200. Press a button now.

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201. That's right. The biggest plant will have the best chance of surviving so remove all the others.
202. What should you do if there is a dry period after you have planted the tree seeds?
203. Plant some more seeds,
204. or water the seeds you have planted already?
205. Press a button now.
206. You are right. The seeds need to have water for the first few months after they have been planted.
207. Tree seeds will grow better if you plant them in small pots for a few weeks before moving them to plant outside.
208. If you have a forestry department in your area then they will be able to advise you on how to do this.
209. Trees planted in pots are more successful than those planted directly in the ground.

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210. You have learnt that trees are good for you and your community and also how to plant a tree seed.
211. Each of you now need to plant one tree at the beginning of the next rainy season.
212. Good luck!
213. That was the wrong answer. Let's go back and listen again.
214. Sorry! Wrong answer.
215. Hello. The title of this lesson is " Planting Trees is Good! ". To begin, press the arrow pointing to the right. After you have finished this lesson the arrow pointing down will take you to the quiz. To listen again press the middle button.
216. You've now finished the lesson. Well done! Now press the arrow pointing down to play the quiz and try to win a gold star!
217. Correct!
218. "Planting Trees is Good!"