

# INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS

March 21<sup>st</sup>



## 8 to 12-year olds



Prior to this activity, cut up all **34 flashcards** so that they may be given out during the lesson. Double them up if you need to, according to the number of learners in your class. Also make sure that you have some sort of tape or sticky putty to stick the flashcards to the board.



Prior to this activity, you will have **drawn a big tree** on the board (don't forget the roots going underground).



Give out the **34 flashcards** of living things to your learners, (one flashcard per learner, depending on class size).



Ask learners to come and place the living thing they were handed out where they think it belongs. Living things can be placed underground, on the branches, on the leaves or on the tree trunk.



Once all living things have been placed, have a discussion with your class about their correct positioning and what some of the living things need the tree for (please, refer to your **Teacher information** sheet for the correct positioning of living things and to help you guide the discussion.)



Please make it clear to learners that all the living things stuck around the tree might not all use this particular type of tree: different creatures live in different

parts of the world, where different species of trees grow, but they ALL depend on trees to live, find food and shelter.



Ask learners to count how many types of creatures benefit from the tree by living there, eating / drinking directly from it or finding their food on or around it. Explain that around some trees, up to 2.3 million species may be found! (Most of them are tiny)



Draw a car next to the tree with a puff of gas coming out of it and explain that this gas is bad for the planet; it is called CO<sub>2</sub>. Then draw an arrow from the puff of gas to the tree and explain that trees actually use this gas to help them grow and that this helps us get rid of CO<sub>2</sub>: they clean the air because they absorb CO<sub>2</sub>.



Ask learners to design a poster explaining how important trees are and that they should be respected. Learners could draw a tree with as many creatures as possible on and around it and /or they could explain how trees absorb CO<sub>2</sub>.

