

# Future Forests

This is ECO<sub>2</sub> COP30 Lesson 3 aimed at children aged 9-11.

## Afforestation and Reforestation

*Slides 2 – 6*

Go through slides 2– 6 to look at the differences between afforestation and reforestation. Look at the case study examples of both processes from afforestation in China's "Great Green Wall" project, which aims to plant trees along the edge of the Gobi and Taklamakan Deserts to reforestation efforts in regions like the Amazon Rainforest, where organizations are working to create forest gardens and restore areas that have been cleared for agriculture or logging.

Are there any examples of afforestation and reforestation happening in your country? Research this as a class, or in small groups and share your findings.

## Urban Planting

*Slides 7 – 11*

Projects are happening all over the world to restore and protect our forests and create new ones. These efforts are happening not just in existing forests but in urban areas as well. Look through the case studies from slides 7 – 11 to learn what is happening in urban environments to help restore nature in built up areas and fight climate change.



## Urban Forest Design Challenge

*Slides 12 – 13*

Watch the video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iqIJNjsaiqo>) of how Paris is transforming concrete areas in their city into urban forests.

Can the children design an urban forest that is both good for wildlife and people? For example, it could be a forest playground or a community forest garden where people can come and pick fruit.



The children can design their urban forest for one of the concrete spaces pictured on slide 13, or design an urban forest for an area in your school's local community.

What wildlife and plants would the children like to see living in their urban forest?

## **Our Future Forests**

### *Slide 14*

As a class think about how you could help protect, or increase the number of, trees and forests in your area. You could write to the local council to ask them to plant more trees, design a tree trail walk and map to help people learn more about trees in your area, plant some trees in your school grounds, etc.

## **COP 30**

### *Slides 15 – 18*

Every year, leaders and scientists from countries around the world will come together for COP to talk about how we can better look after our world. COP takes place in a different country each year and this year, at the 30<sup>th</sup> COP, COP30, it will take place in Belém, Brazil. Do the children know where the country of Brazil is located? Use an atlas, world map or Google maps to look at it's location.

COP30 will take place in November 2025. Forests is one of the main themes that will be discussed, so Belém, Brazil is a good place to host COP30 as it is located next to the largest rainforest in the world, the Amazon Rainforest. The Amazon Rainforest is roughly twice the size of India or 28 times the size of the UK so it is home to a lot of trees! It is estimated to be home to over 3 million different animal species, which live in the trees or use them for food and shelter. Look at slides 17 – 18 to learn more about the Amazon Rainforest.

Watch this video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwbXiPWkH5o>) where experts from around the world share what their hopes are for the outcomes of COP30. What do the children hope could happen after COP30? Have a discussion and write down their ideas.



## ECO<sub>2</sub> COP30 International Schools Conference

### *Slide 24*

Just like COP30, we are going to join school from other countries at the ECO<sub>2</sub> COP30 International Schools Conference to think about how we can better look after our world, and the trees and forests in it. We will be able to ask questions to experts and share why we think trees are important and how we are looking after trees in our school and local area. As a class, have a think about what questions you might like to ask the panel of experts.

