

Revision Notes for Class 8 Science

Chapter 5 – Conservation of Plants and Animals

Deforestation, on the other hand, can be explained as the destruction of forests that is done by cutting down trees. It leads to the loss of habitat for many animals all across the globe. There are many other causes of deforestation. Students can learn about these causes explained in these Class 8 Science Ch 5 Notes. The other causes of deforestation are mentioned below.

- Building factories and houses
- Getting land for cultivation
- Natural causes like a forest fire or severe drought
- Using wood as fuel or making furniture

But what are the consequences of deforestation? We have listed some of those consequences in the list that is mentioned below.

- It leads to the reduction of the level of groundwater
- It leads to an increase in temperature and the level of pollution all across the globe
- Deforestation causes an increase in the level of carbon dioxide that is present in the atmosphere

Drought, Desertification, and Global Warming

Drought: Another environmental problem that people have suffered from is drought. You might also be aware of the fact that droughts can be defined as the lack of water in any area. It can happen due to a lack of rainfall in that particular area.

Desertification: Students while going through Class 8 Chapter 5 Science Notes will also learn about desertification. As the name indicates, desertification is the formation of a desert. It happens because of the erosion of vegetation. This can further be caused due to harsh weather conditions. It is also important to note here that many human activities like improper irrigation and deforestation also cause desertification of terrains.

Global Warming: Similarly, another major problem that our planet is suffering from today is global warming. The Class 8 Science Notes Chapter 5 states that global warming is the change of climate that occurs at a global level. In most cases, it refers to the increase in the average temperature of the planet. This increase in temperature is minuscule, but it has had many negative effects on the planet. For example, the ice caps in the poles have melted because of the increased temperature. Also, there are many causes of global warming, including deforestation and excessive pollution.

What are Species and How Can We Save the Environment?

While learning about our environment, we cannot complete the notes of Chapter Conservation Of Plants And Animals Class 8 without talking about species. In the simplest terms, a species can be defined as a group of individuals. This group of individuals should be able to breed and produce offspring that are fertile.

Now that we have all the basic information, the next step is to look at various measures that we can employ to protect the environment. Let's discuss all of these measures below.

- Recycle Paper

The first and the easiest that everybody can do is recycle paper. According to various statistics, the paper industry is the leading cause of deforestation. This is because that industry required a lot of wood pulp. This is why if one chooses to recycle paper, then that will result in the reduction of consumption of new wood pulp. This would be good for both parties as you would be able to save money while protecting the environment.

- Reforestation

Another important measure that can be taken to protect the environment is reforestation. This is an important topic in notes of Ch 5 Science Class 8. For readers who are not aware, reforestation is the process of restocking the destroyed forests. This can be done by simply planting new trees.

- Wildlife Conservation

Conservation of wildlife is an important measure that is stressed in Ch 5 Science Class 8 Notes. There are many experts who believe that this conservation is vital because of the threat that is possessed by the excessive indulgence of mankind. Many techniques can be followed for conserving wildlife. It is vital to follow all of these techniques because wildlife helps in maintaining the balance that exists between nature.

- Wildlife Sanctuary

A wildlife sanctuary is a sanctuary that occurs naturally, like an island. This place provides vital protection to various species from threats that are posed by competition, predation, poaching, and hunting.

- National Park

Before we talk about national parks, it is important to understand what flora and fauna mean. Simply put, the plants and animals that are found in any particular area are known as flora and fauna, respectively. Now, moving back to the topic, a national park is a park that serves the purpose of biodiversity conservation. These parks are mainly developed and maintained by union governments present all across the globe.

- Ecosystem

An ecosystem is simply the total of all the animals, plants, and microorganisms that live in an area along with non-living components of that area like a river, soil, deltas, and climate.

- Biosphere Reserves

The biosphere is the part of our planet in which all living organisms live or the place where life is supported. Biodiversity or biological diversity refers to the number of organisms that are living on the earth. It also refers to the relationships between those creatures and the relationship between the living creatures and the environment. A biosphere reserve is simply

an area of land that is protected from all human interventions. The purpose of these areas is to protect and conserve the lives of endangered species.

- Endangered Animals

Endangered animals are those animals whose numbers are reducing to a level where it is possible that they might face extinction in the near future.

- Endemic Species

Endemic species are those species of animals and plants that are found in a particular area exclusively.

- Red Data Book

The red data book is a sourcebook that is known for keeping a record of all the endangered species of plants and animals in the world.

- Project Tiger

Project tiger was a project that was launched by the Indian government. This project aimed to protect and conserve the reducing population of tigers in India. There are many natural parks that have been allocated to the project tiger initiative. Similar projects have also been launched by governments of other countries.

- Migration

You might already be familiar with the fact that migration is defined as the periodic movement that many animals engage in from one place to another. Migration is commonly done for the purpose of breeding or to escape harsh climate conditions. Many birds and fishes engage in migration.