

## Topic: Land and Its Uses

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### Lesson Objectives:

By the end of this lesson, students should be able to:

- Define **land** and explain its **characteristics**
  - List the **agricultural uses of land**
  - List the **non-agricultural uses of land**
  - Understand the importance of **land management**
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### 1. Meaning of Land

#### Definition:

**Land** is the **solid surface of the earth** where **plants grow, animals live, and human activities take place**. It includes:

- **Soil** for planting
- **Forests and rangelands**
- **Mountains, valleys, rivers, and ponds**

In agriculture, land is a **primary natural resource** because **farming cannot take place without land**.

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### 2. Characteristics of Land

Characteristic	Explanation
<b>Natural Resource</b>	Land is <b>provided by nature</b> , not man-made.
<b>Immobile</b>	Land <b>cannot be moved</b> from one place to another.
<b>Limited in Supply</b>	The <b>total amount of land is fixed</b> .
<b>Varied in Quality</b>	Some land is <b>fertile and productive</b> , while other land is <b>infertile</b> .

Characteristic	Explanation
Subject to Ownership	Land can be <b>owned, inherited, or leased</b> .
Multipurpose Use	Land can be used for <b>farming, building, mining, etc.</b>

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### 3. Agricultural Uses of Land

Use	Description
Crop Production	Land is used for <b>growing crops</b> like rice, maize, yam, cassava, etc.
Livestock Farming	Land provides <b>grazing areas and shelters</b> for animals like cows, goats, and poultry.
Wildlife Conservation	Reserved land is set aside for <b>protecting wild animals and plants</b> (e.g., game reserves).
Forestry	Land is used for <b>growing trees</b> for timber, firewood, and paper production.
Fish Farming	Lowlands and wetlands can be converted into <b>fish ponds</b> .

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### 4. Non-Agricultural Uses of Land

Use	Description
Housing and Settlements	Land is used for <b>building houses, schools, and hospitals</b> .
Industry	Land is needed for <b>factories, industries, and warehouses</b> .
Transportation	Land is used to build <b>roads, railways, airports, and seaports</b> .
Recreation	Land is used for <b>stadiums, parks, and leisure centers</b> .
Mining	Land provides <b>minerals like gold, coal, and oil</b> .
Infrastructure Development	Building of <b>bridges, power stations, and dams</b> also uses land.

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### 5. Importance of Land

- **Foundation of agriculture**
  - **Supports human settlement**
  - **Provides raw materials** for industries
  - **Contributes to national development**
  - **Source of food, income, and employment**
  - **Habitat for plants and animals**
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## 6. Challenges in Land Use

- **Overpopulation** leading to **land shortage**
  - **Soil erosion and degradation**
  - **Urbanization** taking over farmland
  - **Deforestation** and loss of wildlife habitat
  - **Land disputes** and ownership conflicts
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## 7. Sustainable Land Management

To ensure land remains productive, farmers and governments should:

- **Practice crop rotation** and **mixed farming**
  - Prevent **soil erosion** with terracing and cover crops
  - Avoid **deforestation**
  - Use **organic manure** to improve soil fertility
  - Follow **proper land policies** to reduce disputes
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## 8. Summary of Key Points

Concept	Meaning
Land	Earth's surface used for farming, building, etc.

<b>Concept</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<b>Agricultural Uses</b>	Crop production, livestock, forestry, fish farming
<b>Non-Agricultural Uses</b>	Housing, transport, mining, recreation
<b>Importance</b>	Supports life and development