Forests on the Edge

Forests on the Edge inspires dialogue among students as they answer the question: Why are forest lands near cities important and how should they be used? Students are divided into groups and after completing a hands-on activity to engage in presentations to advocate their views.

### Performance Expectations

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

**MS-ESS3-4.** Construct an argument supported by evidence for how increases in human population and per-capita consumption of natural resources impact Earth’s systems. [Clarification Statement: Examples of evidence include grade-appropriate databases on human populations and the rates of consumption of food and natural resources (such as freshwater, mineral, and energy). Examples of impacts can include changes to the appearance, composition, and structure of Earth’s systems as well as the rates at which they change. The consequences of increases in human populations and consumption of natural resources are described by science, but science does not make the decisions for the actions society takes.]

### Science and Engineering Practices

- Asking Questions and Defining Problems
- Developing and Using Models
- Planning and Carrying Out Investigations
- Analyzing and Interpreting Data
- Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking
- Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions
- Engaging in Argument from Evidence
- Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

### Disciplinary Core Ideas

- ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems

### Crosscutting Concepts

- Patterns
- Cause and Effect
- Stability and Change

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