

1. Forests of the World

Introduction

Forests cover about 31% of the Earth's surface. They play a vital role in maintaining ecological balance by absorbing carbon dioxide, releasing oxygen, and supporting a huge variety of plants and animals. They are the lungs of our planet.

Rainforests

Rainforests are dense, warm, wet forests typically found near the equator. They are biodiversity hotspots, home to millions of species, many still undiscovered. These forests help regulate the Earth's temperature and rainfall patterns.

Temperate Forests

Temperate forests exist in regions with four distinct seasons. Trees like oak, maple, and beech thrive here. These forests are vital for both biodiversity and human resources, including timber and recreation.

Forest Conservation

Deforestation threatens wildlife, climate stability, and local livelihoods. Efforts like reforestation, sustainable logging, and protected areas help conserve forests for future generations.