



*New Jersey Project
Learning Tree
Correlations*

*The Changing Forest:
Forest Ecology*

Window to your world of instruction

**PLT correlations to the
New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards**

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Parks and Forestry
New Jersey Forest Resource Education Center
370 East Veterans Highway
Jackson, NJ 08527
www.njforestrycenter.org
www.teachnjenv.org
732-833-9816
Elizabeth.faircloth@dep.state.nj.us



The Changing Forest: Forest Ecology

Project Learning Tree is sponsored by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry and is registered with Department of Education as a professional development provider. Project Learning Tree (PLT) is internationally recognized as one of the premier environmental education programs.

A **Project Learning Tree Workshop for Secondary Educators** may include one of the five secondary environmental education modules: *Exploring Environmental Issues*; *Focus on Forests*, *The Places We Live*, *Municipal Solid Waste*, *Focus on Risk*, and *The Changing Forest: Forest Ecology*. All educators will receive a free education module at a PLT workshop.

The PLT secondary environmental education modules are built around five major themes: Diversity, Interrelationships, Systems, Structure and Scale, and Patterns of Change. PLT activities integrate the themes into all aspects of the standard secondary curriculum. Each activity guides the student through a process that begins with awareness, moves students toward understanding, enables them to challenge preconceived notions, and motivates them to seek constructive avenues for environmental action.

The Changing Forest: Forest Ecology is a module designed to encourage students to explore and learn about forest ecosystems through hands-on discovery and experimentation. Their investigations will help them appreciate the diversity of life in forest, understand the interdependencies of such forest life, and develop an awareness of the importance of forests in our daily lives. They will also learn about the variety of professionals and practices involved in managing forest, from small urban parts to large national parks.

Since the development of the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (CCCS), educators will need to correlate their curriculum with these standards.

This New Jersey Secondary Educators Project Learning Tree Guide lists the written state content standards for each PLT activity. Only the content standards that pertain to PLT activities are written. The activities are presented by their PLT Activity Guide name and number. The letter “E” is added to the activity number if the content standard is found only in the enrichment activity.

Science Standards

Standard 5.1

(SCIENTIFIC PROCESSES) All students will develop problem-solving, decision-making and inquiry skills, reflected by formulating usable questions and hypotheses, planning experiments, conducting systematic observations, interpreting and analyzing data, drawing conclusions, and communicating results.

A. Habits of Mind

PLT activity

3. Nature of Plants

B. Inquiry and Problem Solving

PLT activity

2. Cast of Thousands

3. Nature of Plants

Standard 5.3

(MATHEMATICAL APPLICATIONS) All students will integrate mathematics as a tool for problem-solving in science, and as a means of expressing and/or modeling scientific theories.

B. Geometry and Measurement

PLT activity

2. Cast of Thousands

2E. Cast of Thousands

Standard 5.4

(NATURE AND PROCESS OF TECHNOLOGY) All students will understand the interrelationships between science and technology and develop a conceptual understanding of the nature and process of technology.

B. Nature of Technology

PLT activity

5. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth

C. Technological Design

PLT activity

5. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth

Standard 5.5

(CHARACTERISTICS OF LIFE) All students will gain an understanding of the structure, characteristics, and basic needs of organisms and will investigate the diversity of life.

A. Matter, Energy, and Organization in Living Systems

PLT activity #

3. Nature of Plants

B. Diversity and Biological Evolution

PLT activity #

5. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth

6. Story Of Succession

Standard 5.10

(ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES) All students will develop an understanding of the environment as a system of interdependent components affected by human activity and natural phenomena.

A. Natural Systems and Interactions

PLT activity #

7. Understanding Fire

8. Fire Management

B. Human Interactions and Impact

PLT activity #

1. Adopt A Forest

2. Cast Of Thousands

5E. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth

7. Understanding Fire

7E. Understanding Fire

8. Fire Management

8E. Fire Management

Mathematics Standards

Standard 4.2

(GEOMETRY AND MEASUREMENT) All students will develop spatial sense and the ability to use geometric properties, relationships, and measurement to model, describe, and analyze phenomena.

- A. Geometric Properties
- D. Units of Measurement
- E. Measuring Geometric Properties

PLT activity

- 2. Cast of Thousands

Standard 4.5

(MATHEMATICAL PROCESSES) All students will use mathematical processes of problem solving, communication, connections, reasoning, representations, and technology to solve problems and communicate mathematical ideas.

- A. Problem Solving
- B. Communication
- C. Connections
- D. Reasoning
- E. Representations

PLT activity

- 2. Cast Of Thousands
- 2E. Cast Of Thousands

Social Studies Standards

Standard 6.6 (GEOGRAPHY) All students will apply knowledge of spatial relationships and other geographic skills to understand human behavior in relation to the physical and cultural environment.

E. Environment and Society

PLT activity #

4. Home Sweet Home
5. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth
7. Understanding Fire

Language Arts Standards

Standard 3.2 (WRITING) All students will write in clear, concise, organized language that varies in content and form for different audiences and purposes.

D. Writing Forms, Audiences, and Purposes

PLT activity #

1. Adopt A Forest
2. Cast Of Thousands
8. Fire Management

Standard 3.3 (SPEAKING) All students will speak in clear, concise, organized language that varies in content and form for different audiences and purposes.

A. Discussion

PLT activity #

- 5E. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth
- 7E. Understanding Fire

Standard 3.4 (LISTENING) All students will listen actively to information from a variety of sources in a variety of situations.

- A. Active Listening
- B. Listening Comprehension

PLT activity #

5. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth

Standard 3.5 (VIEWING AND MEDIA LITERACY) All students will access, view, evaluate, and respond to print, nonprint, and electronic texts and resources.

- A. Constructing Meaning

PLT activity #

- 5. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth
- 7. Understanding Fire
- 8. Fire Management

- B. Living With Media

PLT activity #

- 3. Home Sweet Home
- 8. Fire Management

Visual and Performing Arts

Standard 1.2 (CREATION AND PERFORMANCE) All students will utilize those skills, media, methods, and technologies appropriate to each art form in the creation, performance, and presentation of dance, music, theater, and visual art.

- D. Visual Arts

PLT activity #

- 1E. Adopt A Forest
- 4. Home Sweet Home
- 6. Story of Succession
- 7. Understanding Fire

Career Education and Consumer, Family, and Life Skills

Standard 9.2

(CONSUMER, FAMILY, AND LIFE SKILLS) All students will demonstrate critical life skills in order to be functional members of society.

A. Critical Thinking

PLT activity #

5. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth
7. Understanding Fire
8. Fire Management

C. Interpersonal Communication

PLT Activity#

1. Adopt A Forest
2. Cast Of Thousands
3. Nature of Plants
4. Home Sweet Home
5. Saga Of The Gypsy Moth
6. Story Of Succession
7. Understanding Fire
8. Fire Management

The New Jersey Educators Project Learning Guide represents the joint efforts of several groups who are dedicated to bringing environmental education to the classroom and promoting a lifetime of learning in the process. Thanks are extended to:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Parks and Forestry
NJ Forest Service
NJ Forest Resource Education Center
NJDEP, Office of Communications
USDA Forest Service-Conservation Education
NJ Natural Resources Education Cooperative
NJ Department of Education



New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Parks and Forestry
New Jersey Forest Service
New Jersey Forest Resource Education Center
370 East Veterans Highway
Jackson, NJ 08527
www.njforestrycenter.org
www.plt.org

