

Homework Tasks (Year 5):

- **Comprehension:** Please complete – and mark – ‘Into The Mine’ on pg.2 and 3 of this file. Answers can be found on pg.4. Your responses should be recorded in your Homework Jotter provided by school.
- **GPS:** Please read ‘Deforestation’ on pg.5 of this file then answer – and mark – the ‘Word’ and ‘Sentence’ questions on pg. 6 and 7. Answers can be found on pg.8. Please use these to help work out how to answer any questions you are unsure about. Your responses should be recorded in your Homework Jotter provided by school.

***Please ensure your completed homework books are handed in at school on
Wednesday 22nd October.***

- **Spelling:** A spelling test on **Autumn 1 Week 5** list of words will take place next **Friday**. The list of words is available separately on the Woodpecker Class page of the school website. Please log onto Spelling Shed to support practice at home.
- **Multiplication Facts:** A test of a variety of multiplication facts will take place every **Thursday**. Please practise all facts up to 12 x 12.
- **Reading:** You are expected to do **at least 20 minutes** of independent reading at home, **every day**. *Please remember to log all new books read – both those at home and at school – in our class reading log as there are no home reading records in Woodpecker Class:*



Into The Mine

A shrill whistle bounced around the walls of a deep shaft and broke the silence of the dawn. A young boy, no older than eight or nine-years-old, shivered and pulled his woollen cloak tighter around his shoulders. It was scant protection against the lingering frost, but he knew he'd be sweating soon enough.

He'd never been down into the mine before. This was his first day, and he couldn't have been more nervous. His older brother, his father and even his grandfather had made this journey every day of their lives. Until they'd been cut short.

Jeremy, his father's friend, looked over at the boy and gave him a wink. The boy smiled weakly; he knew he couldn't show any weakness here. He was here as a favour, a promise made to his father before the collapse. There were a hundred others just like him in the village who'd take his place and his shilling given a chance. He couldn't let that happen, he told himself. He was the only one left now. His mother needed him.

The strangled groan of the pulley meant that the bucket had arrived. It was bigger than a normal bucket; after all, it was mainly used for bringing coal back to the surface. "Sooner take a ride down on the bucket than walk for miles underground," his older brother, John, used to say.

"Af'er you, kid," a gruff older man said, his face black with coal dust.

Tentatively, the boy extended a leg. The bucket seemed to swing and roll like a barrel on the ocean, but he managed to grab hold of the chain and fall into it gracelessly. Belly-laugh erupted from the other miners, not a good start.

It didn't take long for the other men to pile into the bucket, two of them held on to the chain and wedged their feet against the metalwork. With a sickening jolt, the pulley lurched into life, and they began their descent into the bowels of the Earth. Every inch downward seemed to lift the temperature by a dozen degrees. No wonder the other men hadn't bothered with cloaks.



Over the years, the boy's father had told him tales about how dark it was down in the mines, of how your other senses kicked in and you felt like you could hear for miles. He lay awake at night with his eyes closed as tight as possible, the threadbare blanket pulled over his head. None of that prepared him for the utter absence of light in the shaft.

He didn't know if it was the rocking motion of the bucket or the disorientating effect of the darkness, but the boy felt his breakfast rise in his throat. The other men laughed again when he retched over the side.

Eventually, the squeak of the pulley stopped, and the bucket crunched to a halt. A pinpoint of yellow light turned out to be a man bringing a single candle to lead them to their coalface. The boy looked around at the pale white eyes blinking in the cloying dust, the only pinpoints of light in the dust-covered faces.

All he could do was think of his father, his brothers, and his mother alone at home with no money. He willed himself forward into the mine.

INFERENCE FOCUS

1. Why was the boy shivering in the first paragraph?
2. What information in the second paragraph might also explain his shivering?
3. What had happened to father and brothers?
4. What is important about the job to the boy?
5. Why hadn't the other men worn cloaks?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

R

What was covering the men's faces?

E

Why does the author repeat the fact that the boy's mother is alone? What impact does this have on the reader?

V

What does the word "lurched" tell you about how the pulley system moved?

V

Which of these words is an antonym for "descent"? **climb** **fall** **down**

P

Describe what the boy's first day in the mine was like. Think about the conditions and how he would feel.

Answers - Into The Mine:

1. There was a frost/it was cold
2. He was nervous
3. They'd died
4. Getting paid so that he can help his mother
5. It was far too hot to wear them

R: Coal dust

E: It reminds the reader why the boy is doing it and what is at stake

V: Jolting/uneven/not smooth or comfortable

V: Climb

Deforestation



Since the 1950s, half of the world's rainforests have been cut down or burned. Over 200,000 acres (about the same size as New York City) is destroyed every day. That's an area the size of Disneyland every minute. When trees are cut down, it has a significant impact on the environment.

Losing trees means that less carbon dioxide is absorbed from the atmosphere, hastening climate change. It's not just that, though. It reduces habitats for animals, dries out soil and causes landslides and flooding. If certain species of animals die out, whole ecosystems are destroyed, which means that foods we rely on are harder or even impossible to grow.

You can help by trying to buy sustainable products that utilise forests that are well-managed. You can also try to avoid foods and products that rely on the destruction of rainforests, such as unsustainable palm oil. If we don't act soon, there might not be any rainforest left in another 50 years.



FOCUS ON - WORD

1 Tick all words that contain a suffix.

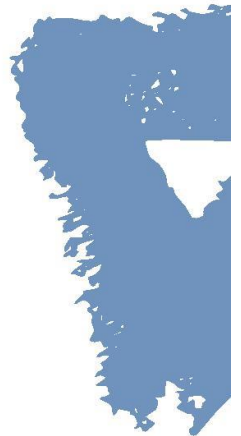
- ☐ destruction
- ☐ sustainable
- ☐ rely
- ☐ reduces

2 Add a suffix to the word absorb to create a noun.

The _____ of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere is greatly reduced due to the vast number of rainforests being cut down or burned.

3 Circle the plural nouns.

It reduces habitats for animals, dries out soil and causes landslides and flooding.



FOCUS ON - SENTENCE

1 Underline the relative clause in the sentence below.

You can also try to avoid foods and products that rely on the destruction of rainforests.

2 Circle the modal verbs in each of these sentences.

You can help by buying sustainable products.

There might not be any rainforests left in another 50 years.

3 Rewrite the sentence below with the main clause at the start.

Remember to punctuate your sentence correctly.

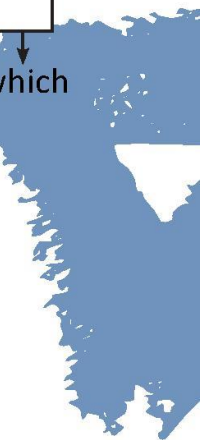
If certain species of animals die out, whole ecosystems are destroyed.

4 Identify the conjunctions.

Tick two boxes.

☐☐☐

If certain species of animals die out, whole ecosystems are destroyed, which means that foods we rely on are harder or even impossible to grow.

☐☐

Answers - Deforestation

WORD

1. 1st option - destruction
2nd option - sustainable
4th option - reduces
2. The absorption of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere is greatly reduced due to the vast number of rainforests being cut down or burned.
3. It reduces habitats for animals, dries out soil and causes landslides and flooding.
4. an animal
a rainforest
an unsustainable product
an impact

SENTENCE

1. You can also try to avoid foods and products that rely on the destruction of rainforests.
2. You can help by buying sustainable products.
There might not be any rainforests left in another 50 years.
3. Whole ecosystems are destroyed if certain species of animals die out.
4. if, or