UNIT 02 / 08 · LEARN & TRY

Forests, Soil and Water

Name: _____ Date: _____

Learn

Forests support many species and influence the movement of water. Leaves intercept some rain, roots help hold soil, and soil spaces allow water to soak in. Trees release water vapour through transpiration. Removing vegetation can increase erosion, especially on slopes during heavy rain. Forest protection must also consider communities that depend on forests. Sustainable management balances use, regeneration and habitat protection over time.

Worked example

After vegetation is removed from a slope, heavy rain can carry exposed soil into a nearby stream.

Compare a planted slope and a bare slope

Schematic illustration; sizes are not to scale.

1. How do roots reduce erosion?