

Title:

Be A Tree Tender- Matching Game

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Abstract:

In the film Tree Tender, Gaia, our main Tree Tender, realizes that we can make a difference in slowing the loss of biodiversity together. There are many ways we can help, from decreasing our energy use, choosing environmentally friendly products, and contacting local governments. In better understanding our effect on the planet, we can better create solutions to help slow extinction rates. Your students will play a traditional matching card game, matching the problem we've created on this planet to a potential solution. When a match is made, students will also try and come up with another way to solve the real-world problem using personal experiences or previous lessons. After the game has been played at least once, the class will come together and discuss some of the solutions they came up with during gameplay. This activity uses collaborative pedagogy, such as Open-Ended Instruction, Active Learning, and Co-operative Learning to explain real-world ecological problems, such as native and invasive species, habitat loss, energy consumption and efficiency, and living more sustainably in our day-to-day life.

Learning objectives:

At the end of this activity, students will be able to:

- Understand some ways we affect the planet
- Connect a problem to a solution through context clues
- Use real world solutions to problems we've created
- Critically think of other ways we can help the planet

Timeframe:

Watching Tree Tender takes about 15 minutes. Playing the Tree Tender Matching Game should take no more than fifteen minutes for a single round.

List of materials:

Supplemental Tree Tender Matching Card Games

Scissors

Procedure and general instructions (for instructor).

- Have the students break into partners or small groups.
- Print out the appropriate number of Tree Tender Matching Cards sets needed for the number of groups. Have students cut cards out carefully. Place cards print side-down.
- Just as with a traditional memory game, students will flip two cards over during their turn.

- The cards are not identical, but you will instead match the problem we've made on the planet with the corresponding solution.
- If there is some confusion, key words are bolded and do match each other in both the problem and the solution cards.
- When a student finds a match, they keep the cards and earn a point. The winning student does not get to draw again.
- When students make a match, have them come up with a second solution to the problem presented on the card.
- The game is over when all cards have been paired up. The student with the most pairs is the Ultimate Tree Tender!
- After cleaning up, come back together as a class and discuss the assessment questions.
- For more ideas on how to become a Tree Tender at home, visit our website (<https://www.treetender.org/about>)

Procedure and general instructions (for students).

Get with a partner and cut out the cards. Flip the cards so the words are facing the table, and play a traditional memory game, matching the problem we've created on the planet to a potential solution. If you match two cards, give the other player a chance instead of repeating your turn. When you make a match, come up with another solution to the problem presented on the card. Once all matches have been made, count the number of pairs each player made. The player with the most cards matched is the Ultimate Tree Tender!

Assessment Questions

- What were some of the environmental problems we have created on the planet?
- Are any of these problems new to you? Which ones?
- What are some simple ways you can help the planet and other organisms?
- Did any of these solutions seem hard? Which ones? How might we be able to come together and implement these solutions?
- Do you try and help the planet at home? How?
- How could you reduce the amount of energy you use at home?
- What other solutions can you think of to help the planet?

Reference list

Become a Tree Tender (2017). Retrieved May 15, 2018, from <https://www.treetender.org/about>
TreeTender. (2017). Retrieved May 15, 2018, from <https://www.treetender.org>