

## Chapter 12 Vocabulary:

Essential Question: How should the resources of rainforest be used and preserved?

1. tropical rainforest: a broadleaf evergreen found in wet hot regions near the equator
2. indigenous peoples: natives of an area who have been conquered or dominated by others who came later
3. land use conflict: disagreement over how to use a particular area of land.
4. broadleaf evergreen forest: a vegetation zone of mainly tall trees that remain green all year; also refers to the type of vegetation in this zone
5. ecosystem: a community of all the living things in an area and the environment in which they live
6. forest floor: the bottom layer or ground of a forest
7. canopy: the thick layer of overlapping tree branches that make up the top layer of a forest
8. biodiversity: the variety of plants and animals living in one area, or on Earth
9. deforestation: removing or clearing away the trees from a forest. Deforestation is often done to clear land for farming or ranching
10. sustainable development: using resources in ways that meet the needs of people today without hurting the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This means finding ways to use resources without using them up.
11. carbon-oxygen cycle: the process by which carbon and oxygen cycle among plants, people and animals, and the environment
12. reserves: an area that has been set aside for a specific purpose
13. clear-cut: to cut down all of the trees in an area

14. economic activity: any action that relates to the making, buying, and selling of goods and services
15. rural: found in or living in areas that are not close to cities
16. nutrients: a substance that provides nourishment, such as one of the elements in soil that make it fertile
17. environmentalists: a person who works to protect the natural world
18. tourism: travel for pleasure rather than business or necessity; also the business of organizing such travel
19. ecotourism: a form of tourism that brings people to unique ecosystems while trying to avoid damage to these special places
20. habitat: the natural environment in which a plant or animal lives
21. reforestation: the replanting of trees in a formerly forested area by people or by nature