
TALK ABOUT TEXTS
Why Recycle Paper?
Written by Michelle Hamer

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For Review Only

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macmillan education

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Why Recycle, Reduce and Reuse?

Making new paper uses a lot of Earth's natural resources. Recycling waste paper turns old paper into new paper. Everyone should recycle, reduce and reuse paper. There are many reasons why.

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Old newspapers can be recycled to make new newspapers.

Trees Are Important

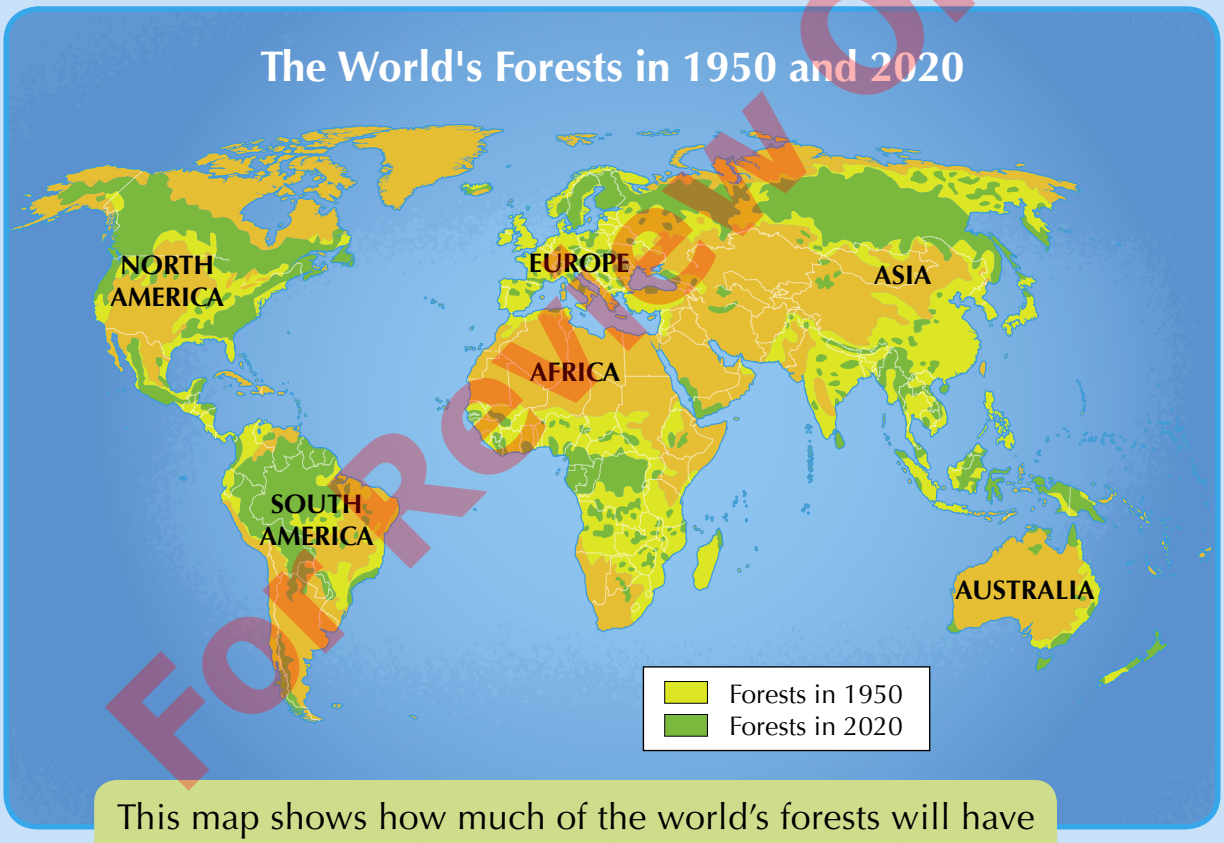
Paper is made from trees. Trees are important. They make the oxygen we need to breathe. They also take in carbon dioxide. This is a natural gas, but it is also a **greenhouse gas**.



This forest is being cut down to make paper.

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Imagine if the world ran out of trees. There would be less oxygen in the air. It would be difficult for humans to breathe. The animals that live in trees or forests would lose their homes. Recycling, reducing and reusing paper saves trees from being cut down.



This map shows how much of the world's forests will have been cut down in the 70 years between 1950 and 2020.

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Rubbish is Building Up

We don't have enough space for all our rubbish. Each year, huge amounts of paper go into **landfills**. Rubbish that goes into a landfill can take years to break down, or decompose. Some types of rubbish don't decompose at all.



This landfill island in the Maldives, a group of islands in the Indian Ocean, is full of rubbish from the other islands.

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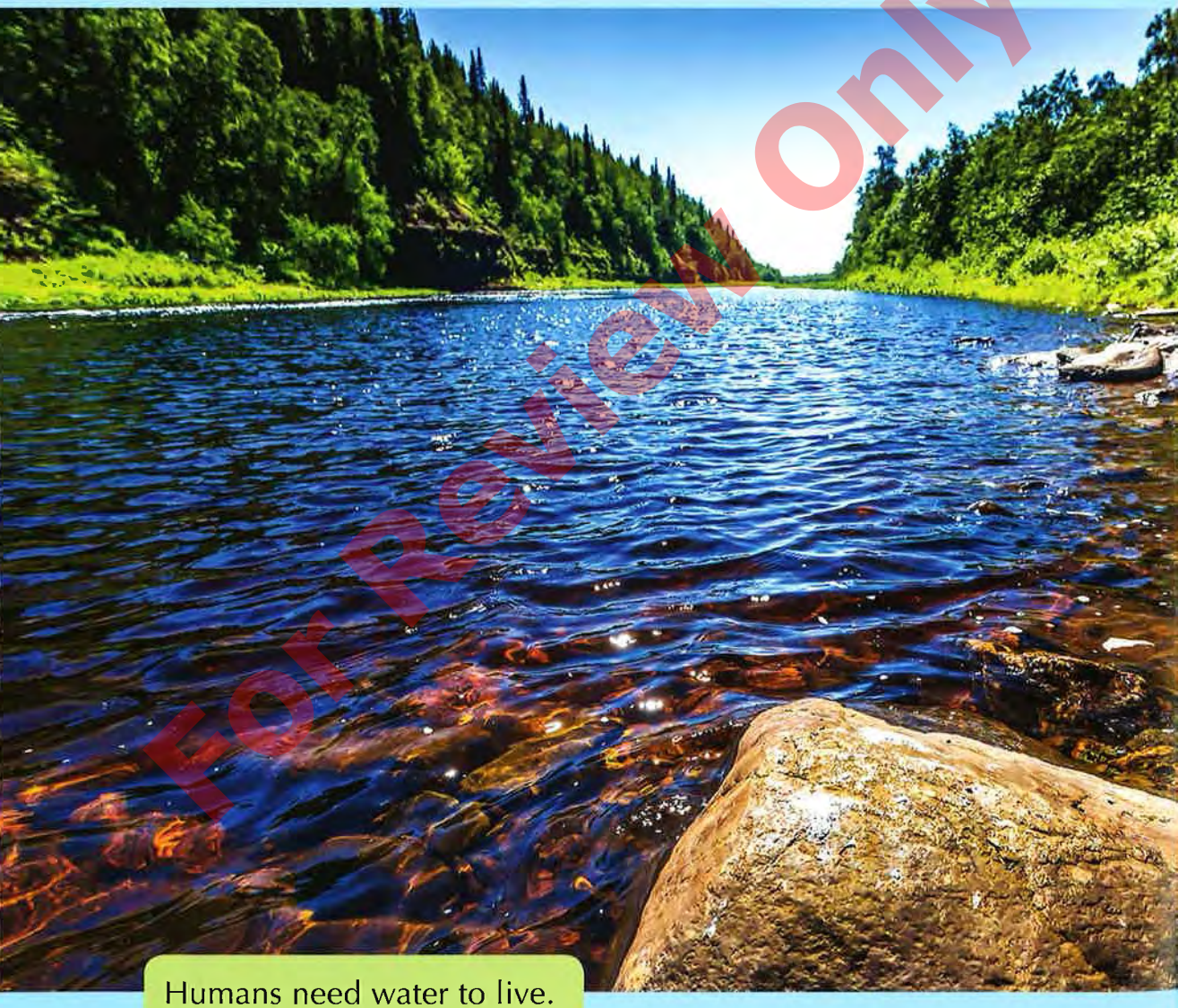
They may look like rubbish, but these blocks of paper are stacked ready to be recycled.

Paper that is thrown away causes other problems, too. Rotting paper gives off methane. This is another greenhouse gas. If we recycle, reduce and reuse paper, we can reduce the amount of methane going into the environment.

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Making Paper Wastes Resources

A lot of water and electricity are used to make paper. Water is a precious **natural resource**. We need water to survive.



Humans need water to live.

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