

Read the section of Lesson 12 (Sections 3 to 8) that matches the rainforest group you have been assigned. Complete the Reading Notes for that group. Use the information from each news report to complete the notes for the other rainforest groups. Then complete the Reading Notes for Section 9.

### 3 What Native Amazonians Want

When did this group come to the rainforest? How do they use its resources? Native Amazonians have lived in the rainforest for about 12,000 years. They hunt, fish, and grow crops on small plots. When a field is no longer fertile, they clear a new one and leave the old one to be covered by the forest.

What do they want?  
How do they defend their position?



We want... the government to make us the legal owners of our homelands so we can live where we belong, on our own land. Our people have lived in these forests for 12,000 years, and our use of the land and its resources is sustainable.

### 4 What Rubber Tappers Want

When did this group come to the rainforest? How do they use its resources? How do they use its resources? Rubber tappers first came to the Amazon in the 1870s to work on rubber tree plantations. Tappers remove sap from rubber trees by making cuts in the bark, which does not harm the trees.

What do they want?  
How do they defend their position?



We want... to continue to make a living by tapping rubber. To do this, the practice of clearing all trees from the rainforest must stop. We want the government to set up protected areas where we can rubber tap. We have lived in the rainforest for generations, and we use its resources, particularly rubber trees, in a sustainable way.

### 5 What Loggers Want

When did this group come to the rainforest? How do they use its resources? Loggers began moving into the Amazon basin in the 1960s. They harvest trees for a variety of uses. Valuable hardwoods like mahogany are used to make furniture. Other trees are used for lumber and to make paper.

What do they want?  
How do they defend their position?



We want... to continue clear-cutting in the rainforest, the most economical way to harvest trees. Our logging companies provide jobs for thousands in Brazil. The trees we harvest provide wood for furniture factories and paper mills. Brazil exported more than \$5 billion of wood in 2005. This helps its economy and all the people of Brazil, not just a few.

### 6 What Settlers Want

When did this group come to the rainforest? How do they use its resources? In the 1960s, the Brazilian government began encouraging poor people to move to the Amazon rainforest. These settlers cleared the land the government gave them and used it for farming.

What do they want?  
How do they defend their position?



We want... rainforest land to farm so we can feed our families. Farming here is difficult, but the best farmland in our country is already owned by others. The government gave us this land and encouraged us to move here. There is no land for us in other parts of the country, so we must use this land to survive.

### 7 What Cattle Ranchers Want

When did this group come to the rainforest? How do they use its resources? Cattle ranchers started coming to the Amazon basin in the 1960s. They clear land, or use land already cleared by loggers and farmers, for grazing their cattle. Cattle eat the grass in an area down to the dirt and are then moved to a new area.

What do they want?  
How do they defend their position?



We want... large tracts of rainforest land so we can continue cattle ranching. Some argue that we don't belong in the rainforest. But we make good use of the land. Our cattle help feed people in Brazil. We also export more than \$3 billion of beef per year to countries like the U.S. That helps the Brazilian economy and all the people of Brazil, not just certain groups.

### 8 What Environmental Groups Want

When did this group come to the rainforest? How do they use its resources? Scientists and environmentalists started coming to the rainforest in the 1970s. Some study plants, hoping to find cures for diseases. Some study wildlife, and others work with native peoples.

What do they want?  
How do they defend their position?



We want... to protect the rainforest's biodiversity by slowing deforestation and development. 2.5 acres of rainforest contain 750 kinds of trees, 1,500 kinds of plants, 125 types of mammals, and 400 types of birds. Deforestation and development must be slowed so we can protect and study these species. Once they are gone, they are lost forever.

### 9 Ideas for Reducing Land Use Conflict

People have different ideas about how to address land use conflict in the rainforest.

Which two ideas would you recommend?

1. *Answers will vary.*

2. *Answers will vary.*

Which rainforest groups' needs would be met by these two ideas? Sketch and label each group below. In each speech bubble, have that group explain how your ideas will meet their needs.

The image shows four speech bubbles arranged horizontally. The first bubble on the left contains the text "Answers will vary." The other three bubbles are empty and intended for students to draw and label a rainforest group, then explain how the chosen ideas would meet their needs.

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**Name of group**

**Name of group**

**Name of group**

**Name of group**