

Wintry Warmers



Winter in the forest is a fascinating time. Rain, fogs, frost and even snow signal changes in plants and animals. Not all is still and quiet in winter, there is much activity. Warm up cold wintry hands and heads with these activities.

These wintry forest facts are not quite right. Find all 20 homophones (words that sound the same but have different meanings like 'write' and 'right') and correct the sentences. Hint: there are two in each leaf. Then, challenge a friend to a game of memory cards. See instructions below.

Trees burnt in summer wildfires quickly sprout new chutes from buds underneath there bark. The shoots appear all over the tree trunk and branches making the tree look furry. Triggering new and rapid growth means eucalypts survive most wildfires.

Winter is a grate thyme to snuggle up in a sleeping bag, enjoy a campfire or cycle through the forest in the crisp fresh air.

Millions of trees are planted each year to replace planted forests that have bean harvested for timber ore to grow new planted forests. Around Bathurst and Tumut, winter is pine planting time. One person plants up to 2000 pine trees per day.

Products like timber are harvested from forests all year round. Would is renewable, biodegradable, recyclable and solar powered. The forest is part of you're everyday life. You might sit on forest products, live in homes made of forest products or eat forest products.

Shorter daze and longer knights mean nocturnal creatures have longer to feed. Australia's largest carnivorous owl, the powerful owl, has longer to hunt for possums.

Controlled burning of the forest is carried out during the cooler months of the year. Controlled fires reduce leaves and twigs on the forest floor so that if aye wildfire happens it will not spread as quickly oar burn as fiercely.

Forests NSW ecologists are busy surveying four threat-ened species of birds. Surveys help Forests NSW decide watt areas need to be set aside from timber harvesting to protect plants and animals.

Mail lyrebirds begin two call for a mate. They fan out long lyre shaped tails and sing a beautiful song perched upon a mound of leaf litter and dirt built to attract a female.

The swift parrot feasts on winter flowering eucalypt trees as it migrates from Tasmania through NSW to Queensland. Regent honey eaters head for the coast from the central tablelands of NSW to feed on eucalypt blossoms. During times of drought, when feed is scarce in western NSW, phlox of honey eaters can be seen along the coast. Wattles and banksias are flouring too.

Red cedar is a native deciduous tree, that is, it loses its leaves during winter. Cedar is a large tree found inn coastal rainforests, once plentiful butt heavily logged by early settlers. Rainforest areas are no longer harvested for timber in NSW. Look out for new red growth in spring.

To play memory cards

Copy the cards onto cardboard twice. Colour and cut out. Place cards face down. Take turns to flip two cards over. If they match, take them. If not, turn back over. Continue until all the cards are matched ... but if you match two 'jokers', you are out of the game! The player with the most pairs wins.

