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### A Single Change Can Make a Difference

Although we may not realize it, wood is an invaluable resource that all humans use every day. We often think of wood products only as furniture and paper, but this could not be further from the truth. Wood is used in the creation of bandages, clothing, candles and even ice cream. Even though wood from forests is used every day, the haunting truth is that without ensuring that our forests are properly cared for and maintained we may lose this crucial resource. However, with a well set up plan and a little tender loving care our forests will be able to survive. Forests are one of the worlds most important natural resources, so it is imperative that we take action to preserve them.

Along with being a sturdy and strong building material, wood is incredibly versatile. It can be used for things such as paper, lumber, and furniture. According to KET Education, wood can be used for many more things than what typically comes to mind. Products like baseball bats and adhesive bandages can be made from tree parts. Cellulose from trees can be used to create products that we do not typically think of as tree products such as ice cream, makeup, parmesan cheese, and paint. Many items that are crucial to everyday life are formed using materials from trees.

Our forests are facing many threats that could have a serious impact if the problems are not addressed and dealt with. These include fires, insects, weather, climate change, and human interference. According to Idaho Forest Products Commission, fires are one of the most feared

threats to Idaho's forests. People are also a leading cause of the forests' decline because we cause fires, leave waste in the forest, and allow the excessive growth of vegetation. Forests face a plethora of dangers including uncontrolled fires, human interference, and climate change.

Managing the dangers to forests takes time and effort, but it can be accomplished. One technique to help prevent forest fires is promoting mindfulness about how our actions affect the forest. According to The Nature Conservancy, we can help the health of our forests by thinning smaller diameter trees and using controlled burns in order to reduce fuels for uncontrolled fires. It is crucial for people to recognize how their actions affect the environment around them. By spreading awareness and using methods for reducing vegetation, we can help our forests be sustainable.

If we put in effort to preserve our forests, then they can be a natural resource that will last for years. It is crucial to protect our forests because they provide versatile materials that are used in everything from desks to dessert. Forests face many dangers that, if left unchecked, could cause lasting damage. Although our forests face many challenges, we can take steps to help. Therefore, we need to be knowledgeable and mindful of our actions in order to protect our forests.

## Works Cited

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