

The Wonders of the Great Oak Forest

Learning objective: To identify and retrieve information from a non-chronological report and make inferences about the text.

Read the report below about the Great Oak Forest carefully. Use the information to answer the five questions that follow, ensuring you use full sentences.

The Great Oak Forest is a vast, ancient woodland that serves as a vital habitat for thousands of species. Stretching across the valley, the forest is divided into three distinct layers: the canopy, the understorey, and the forest floor. The canopy, formed by the interlocking branches of towering oak trees, acts as an umbrella, protecting the life below from harsh weather.

Many creatures here are nocturnal, meaning they are most active during the night to avoid predators. For example, the wise barn owl uses the quiet darkness to hunt for small mammals among the ferns. On the forest floor, the soil is rich with nutrients, supporting a carpet of moss and fungi. This environment provides the perfect home for insects and amphibians.

Conservationists work hard to protect this delicate balance. Because the forest supports such high biodiversity, even a small change, like littering or clearing dead wood, can disrupt the food chain. Visitors are encouraged to follow the 'leave no trace' rule to ensure that the forest remains a thriving, green sanctuary for generations to come. By respecting these natural boundaries, we protect the heart of our wild landscape.

Word bank: habitat · canopy · biodiversity · undergrowth · nocturnal

1. Name the three layers of the forest mentioned in the report. (2 marks)

2. What does the word 'nocturnal' mean according to the text? (2 marks)

3. Why might the canopy be considered an important part of the forest's survival? (2 marks)

4. Why do you think the author mentions 'littering' in the section about conservation? (2 marks)

5. Do you think it is important for humans to protect forests like this? Explain your reason. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of the Great Oak Forest, labelling the three layers: the canopy, the understorey, and the forest floor, including at least one animal in each layer.



Extension challenge: Nova the owl wants to write a short non-chronological report about a different habitat. Choose an environment (such as a desert or a coral reef) and write three subheadings you would use to organise your report.