

FOREST LITERACY HOT TOPIC

WILDFIRE

Vigorous and healthy forests are more likely to withstand the effects of wildfire.

Wildland fire can have many environmental benefits, like enabling fire-adapted pinecones to release their seeds. Smaller fires can also remove excess grass, brush, and trees that can fuel larger and more severe wildfires. But many forested areas are now experiencing prolonged fire seasons as climate change increases the severity and frequency of wildfires. More than a billion acres are at risk of fire each year in the U.S., according to the U.S. Forest Service.



KEY FOREST LITERACY PLAN CONCEPTS FOR WILDFIRE

Forest literacy activities may help to address questions such as:

- What role does wildfire play in forest ecosystems?
- In what ways does climate change affect the frequency and intensity of wildfire?
- How can we manage forests to maximize the benefits and minimize the negative effects of wildfire?

Grade Level	Concepts
K-2	Theme 4, B.2
3-5	Theme 1, C.4 Theme 1, A.5
6-8	Theme 1, D.1 Theme 3, B.6
9-12	Theme 3, B.3 Theme 3, B.4