

# Natural Enemies of the Forest

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### VOLCANOES



1. They cause forest fires when burning lava covers forests.
2. Mount St. Helens destroyed forests up to 20 miles from its mouth.
3. The wood destroyed could make a board that reaches to the moon and back and wraps around the earth ten more times.

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### WINDS



1. Hurricanes are powerful enough to destroy a whole forest.
2. Large trees in overcrowded stands are often uprooted by severe storms because of their size and weak condition.
3. Our word "hurricane" comes from the Arawak word "jurakan", meaning a bad and destructive spirit.

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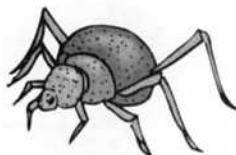
### WILDFIRES



1. Wildfires often get so hot that they bake the soil and destroy all the biota in it.
2. Only 10% of all wildfires in California are started by lightning. The rest are man-made.
3. Controlled burns imitate Mother Nature by preventing the unhealthy effects of overcrowding.

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### INSECTS



1. Bark beetles eat a circle around a tree and prevent nutrients and water from reaching all parts of the tree.
2. Insects can more easily attack and destroy trees that are stressed from overcrowding.
3. Insects do more damage than forest fires and diseases put together.

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### DISEASE



1. A fungus takes nutrients away from the tree's cells.
2. Mistletoe and Dutch elm disease are examples of diseases.
3. Overcrowded trees are stressed and are more likely to be attacked by fungus and other diseases.

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### STRESS



1. Competition for nutrients and water in overcrowded forests causes trees to become stressed.
2. Stressed trees are more likely to be killed or harmed by diseases, insects, drought, and violent acts of nature.
3. Overcrowded trees do not make good homes for most wildlife because their shade prevents the growth of ground plants that animals need.