

Activity 1: What Happened Here?

Look at the difference in the _____ on the right as compared to the left of the trail. WHITE PINE trees on the right are _____ while the small BEECH trees are _____, or Broad Leaf trees. We can identify the WHITE PINES because they are the only pines which have _____ needles per bundle. The forest on the RIGHT was disturbed when the forest stand was _____ years ago. You can tell because through all the WHITE PINES you can see old _____ where trees were cut down. We call this a forest _____ and it can change the way _____ use the forest in this area.

CONIFERS

LOGGED

DISTURBANCE

FIVE

STUMPS

TREES

DECIDUOUS

ANIMALS

Activity 2: The Changing Forest

In this area along the trail the forest looks different most because of the large _____ trees. We can identify these trees because of their unique _____ and _____ that are now found on the ground. This forest stand faces _____ and is therefore _____ because it receives more direct _____ throughout the year. Here looking up we can see the vertical _____ of the forest including the ground or floor, grasses, shrubs, understory, and finally the uppermost forest CANOPY. Over time the forest will change and this process is called _____.

WARMER

LEAVES

SOUTH

SUNLIGHT

ACORNS

SUCCESSION

LAYERS

OAK

Activity 3: An Old Forest Stand

This is an old, or _____, forest stand with fewer shrubs and a tall forest canopy. The trees here are large with many high branches and leaves blocking the sun in summer and creating abundant _____. Large _____ trees grow here in the moist, rocky soil and are identified by their smooth gray bark. These trees are common and very important because in the fall Beech _____ provide food for many animals including _____. We can examine tree size by measuring the _____ (or distance around an object) and estimating its _____. Other DISTURBANCES found in this forest are natural, not human, and include an infection from Beech Bark _____.

BEECH	SHADE	HEIGHT	DISEASE
CIRCUMFERENCE	MATURE	NUTS	BLACK BEARS

Activity 4: Bald Top Mountain Summit

At the summit of Bald Top Mountain we have open views because of past land-use that included _____ of the land. Trees on the summit are _____ and with many large exposed rocks we can conclude that the _____ layer is _____ or not very deep. In the distance we can see larger peaks to the _____ including Mount Moosilauke. We can observe changes in the forest, and animal HABITAT, with increasing _____, or height, up the mountain. For example, from _____ to the mountain top the forest ECOSYSTEMS change from northern hardwoods, to spruce-fir, and finally alpine _____ where there are no trees because of extreme weather conditions (cold, wind).

EAST	THIN	TUNDRA	SMALL
SOIL	CLEARING	ELEVATION	LOWLANDS