



Primary 4 Social studies

Term 2

Theme: LIVING TOGETHER IN OUR DISTRICT

Topic 1/2: VEGETATION IN OUR DISTRICT

Learning Outcome

The learner;

- Understands and appreciates the value of vegetation for better living.
- Plants, cares and uses of different types of vegetation correctly.

Vegetation

Vegetation means **plants that grow in an area.**

There are two main types:

1. Natural Vegetation:

- Plants that grow on their own without being planted by people.
- Examples:
 - **Forests** – like Mabira Forest.
 - **Swamps** – with papyrus and reeds.
 - **Grasslands** – with wild grasses and shrubs.

2. Planted Vegetation

- Plants that are grown by people for food, income, or beauty.
- Examples:
 - **Crops** – maize, beans, bananas, cassava.
 - **Plantations** – coffee, sugarcane, tea.
 - **Ornamental plants** – flowers and trees planted for shade.

Exercise 1

1. What is vegetation?
2. Name two examples of natural vegetation.
3. Which type of vegetation includes crops like maize and beans?
4. What is the difference between natural and planted vegetation?
5. Write one use of forests.

Kinds of Vegetation



Mabira forest



Swamp



Grass

In Mukono District and other parts of Uganda, we find different types of vegetation:

1. Forests

Forests are thick areas with many trees.

Example of forests are: Mabira Forest.

Uses of forest:

- Forest provide food or fruits
- Forest give timber
- Forests give firewood
- Forests provide medicine
- Forests prevent soil erosion

2. Swamps

Swamps are wet areas with water and plants.

Examples of wetland:

- Wetlands near Lake Victoria.
- Sezibwa wetland

Use of wetland:

- Wetlands are used for growing rice and yams
- Wetlands are sources of water
- Wetland prevent floods.

3. Shrubs

Shrubs are small bushy plants.

They are found near hills and dry areas.

Use of shrubs

- Shrubs **provide** shelter for animals
- Shrubs provide medicine
- Shrubs prevent soil erosion.
- Swamps are used for growing crops like yams and rice
- Swamps are used for fish farming in fish ponds



Fish pond

4. Grass

Grasses are short green plants that cover the ground.

They are found in open fields and grazing areas.

Use of grass

- Grass provide food for animals
- Grass prevents soil erosion.

5. Crops

Crops are plants grown by people for food.

Examples of crops are: maize, beans, bananas, cassava.

The provide food and income.

Exercise 2

1. What is vegetation?
2. Name two examples of crops.
3. Which type of vegetation is found in Mabira Forest?
4. What is the use of grass in the environment?
5. Mention one plant that grows in swamps.
6. What are shrubs?
7. Why are forests important to people?
8. Name one danger of destroying vegetation.
9. How do crops help farmers?
10. Write two types of vegetation found in Mukono District.

Uses of vegetation

- Source of herbs for medicine
- Source of firewood
- Source of food
- Provides oxygen
- Supports in rain formation
- Controls soil erosion and wind
- Improves soil fertility
- For beauty.

Exercise 3

Name any four uses of vegetation

How people affect vegetation



Burning bushes



Overgrazing



Brick making

- Burning bushes
- Over cultivation
- Over grazing
- Deforestation
- Making bricks
- Construction of roads
- Building houses for settlement and industries
- Clearing bushes and forests for crop growing.

Exercise 3

State any four ways humans destroy vegetation

Caring for crops

Caring for crops means **protecting and helping plants grow well** so they give us food. Farmers and gardeners must take good care of their crops every day.

Ways to Care for Crops

1. **Watering crops regularly** – gives plants the moisture they need to grow.
2. **Weeding the garden** – removes unwanted plants that compete for nutrients.
3. **Adding manure or fertilizers** – helps crops grow strong and healthy.
4. **Protecting crops from pests** – using safe methods to stop insects and animals from destroying plants.
5. **Digging and loosening the soil** – helps roots grow deep and get air.
6. **Harvesting at the right time** – picking crops when they are ready to avoid waste.
7. **Fencing the garden** – keeps animals away from eating or stepping on crops.
8. **Using mulch** – covering the soil with dry grass or leaves to keep moisture and stop weeds.

Exercise 4

1. Why do we water crops?

2. What is weeding?
3. Name one thing farmers add to soil to help crops grow.
4. How can we protect crops from animals?
5. What happens if we don't remove weeds?
6. Why is it important to harvest crops at the right time?
7. What is mulch used for?
8. Name two ways of caring for crops.
9. What do pests do to crops?
10. Why is digging the soil important for crops?

Caring for natural vegetation

Natural vegetation means **plants that grow on their own without being planted by people**, such as forests, swamps, and grasslands. We must care for them so they continue to help us.

Ways of Caring for Natural Vegetation

1. **Avoid cutting too many trees** – plant new trees when old ones are cut.
2. **Prevent bush fires** – do not burn grass or forests carelessly.
3. **Stop dumping rubbish in swamps and forests** – keep them clean.
4. **Protect animals in forests** – do not hunt them carelessly.
5. **Use vegetation wisely** – take only what we need for firewood or building.
6. **Educate people** – teach others the importance of caring for natural vegetation.

Why Caring Is Important

- (i) Forests give us timber, medicine, and clean air.
- (ii) Swamps control floods and provide water.
- (iii) Grasslands feed animals and prevent soil erosion.

Exercise 5

1. What is natural vegetation?
2. Name two examples of natural vegetation.
3. Why should we avoid bush fires?
4. How can we care for forests?
5. Mention one use of swamps.
6. What happens if we cut down too many trees?
7. Why is grass important in the environment?
8. Name one danger of dumping rubbish in swamps.
9. Write one way of caring for animals in forests.
10. Why should we teach people about caring for natural vegetation?

Thank You

Dr. Bbosa Science