CHAPTER: THE STORY OF AMRITA

Grade: **4**
Board: **CBSE**
Book: **NCERT**

1.

Chapter Summary and Placement

Read through the following to understand the gist of the lesson.

IThe children explore their surrounding at this age. This chapter helps to explain the importance of trees for the survival of human beings. This chapter wants the student to inculcate a bond towards trees in their surroundings and become sensitive towards the reduction in their numbers.

2.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

<On completion of the chapter, students will be able to:>

1. Locate the state of Rajasthan on the map and know about Bishnois of Rajasthan and Khejadi trees of Rajasthan
2. Discover the various trees, uses and things we get from trees
3. Understand the meaning of deforestation and how it affects animals and human beings
4. Recall the story of Amrita Devi of Rajasthan

3. PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENT

<The below points should be refreshed before introducing the chapter:>

1) Remember the meaning of trunks, leaves learnt in previous years

4. TEACHING PLAN

Follow this section for getting ideas on teaching the content covered in the chapter. The subtopic given in the first column with the matching learning outcome can be explained using instructions and resources listed subsequently

Subtopic and Learning Objective #1

LO: Locate the State of Rajasthan in map and know about Bishnois of Rajasthan and Khejadi trees of Rajasthan

Teacher Activity

1. The teacher can introduce the chapter with the help of Activity 1.
2. Ask the students to explain what they know about desert regions.
3. Let them explain their idea about plants and animals found in desert regions
4. Explain who Bishnois are and the what are Khejadi trees.

a. Bishnois are a Hindu religious sect found in the Western Thar Desert and northern states of India.

b. Amrita Devi, a member of the sect who inspired as many as 362 other Bishnois to go to their deaths in protest of the cutting down of Khejri trees in September 1730.

c. Advantages of Khejadi trees:

- The Khejadi tree is found mainly in desert areas.
- It can grow without much water. Its bark is used for making medicines.
- People cook and eat its fruits (beans).
- Its wood is such that it will not be affected by insects.
- Animals in this area eat the leaves of the Khejadi.

5. Refer Resource 1.
6. After a small session, the teacher can start explaining the story to the students.

Check for understanding:

a) Why did Amrita hug the trees daily?
b) What is the importance of Khejadi trees?

6. Refer Resource 1.
7. After a small session, the teacher can start explaining the story to the students.

Check for understanding:

a) Why did Amrita hug the trees daily?
b) What is the importance of Khejadi trees?

Resources Suggested

Textbook, chalkboard, Resource 1

Activity 1

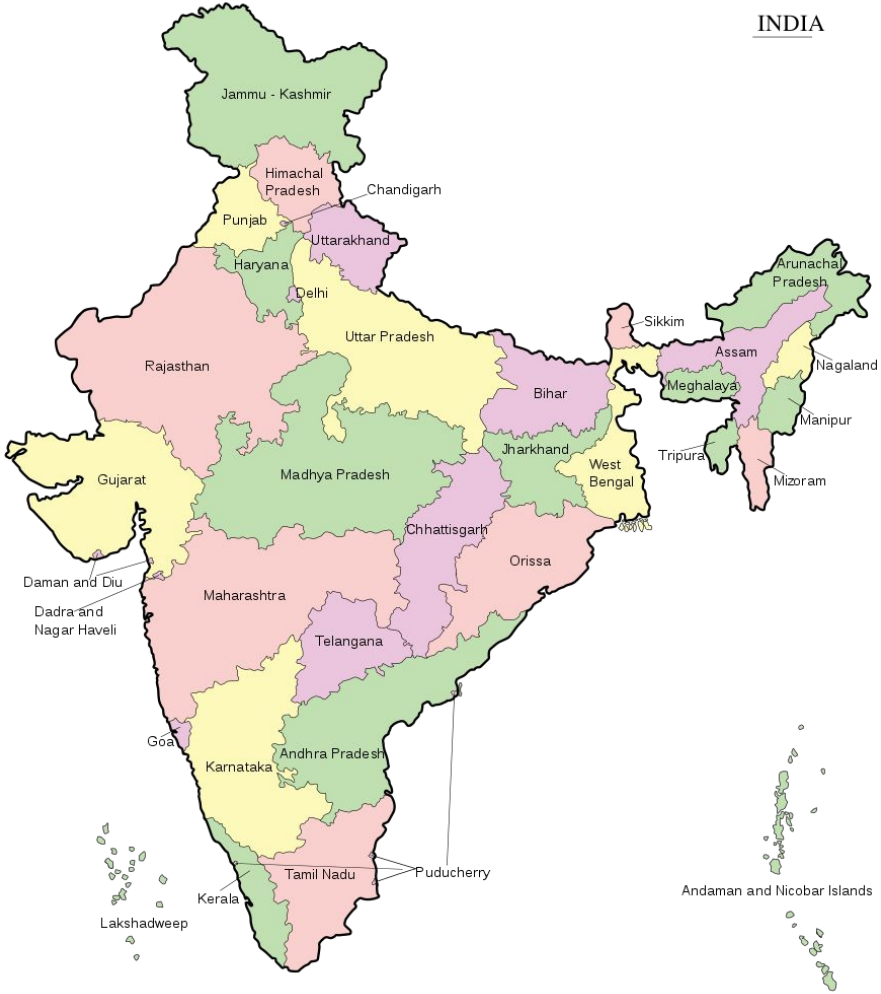
Name of the activity – Locate Rajasthan
Type of activity – Individual
Learning Objective: Locate a place on the map
Use it for – Enhancing recording skills.
Materials – Indian map with states

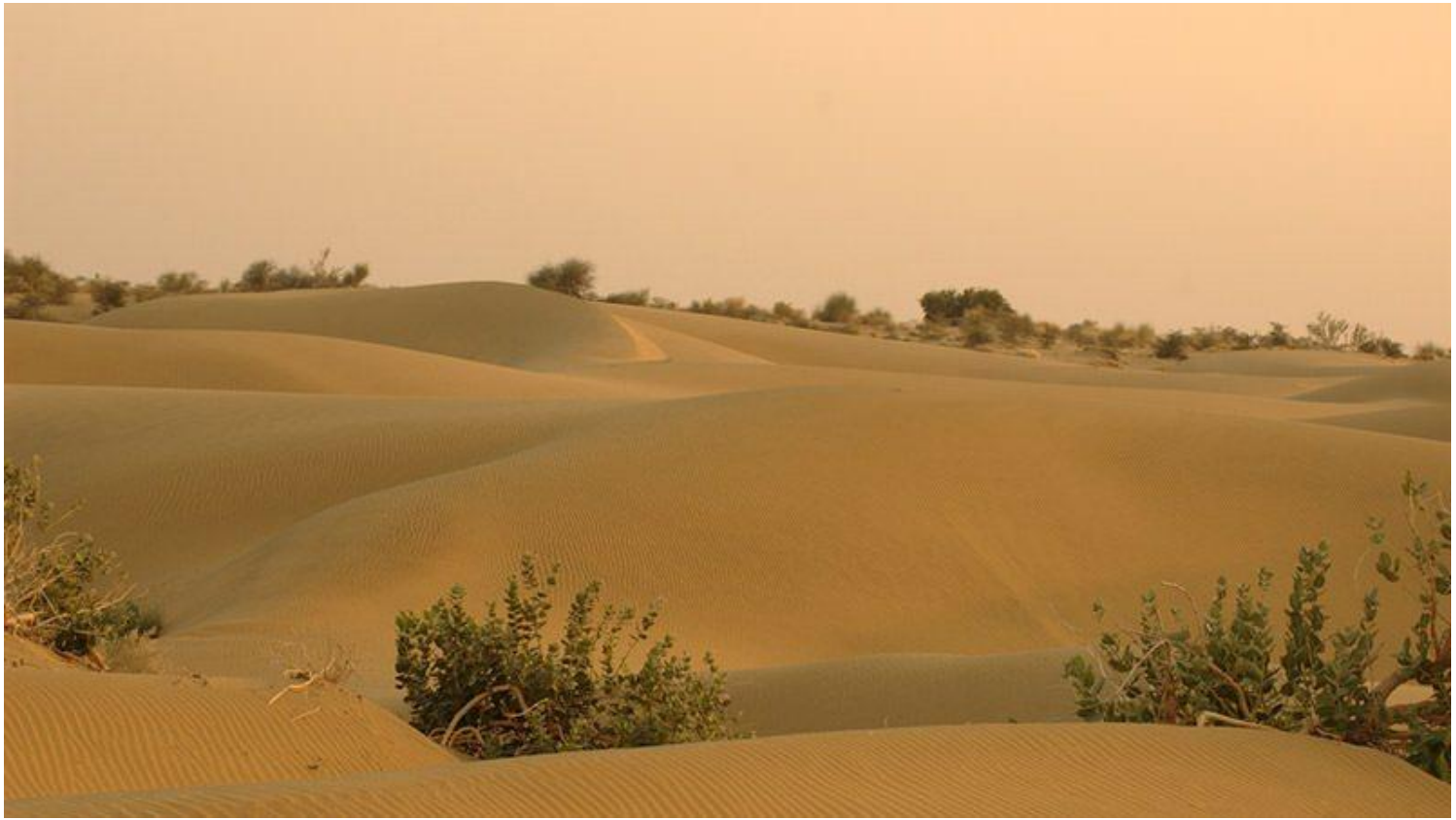
Teacher instructions:

1. The teacher may carry the map of India with states.
2. Explain the meaning of map and the uses of the same to the students.
    a) Map: A map is a picture of a place showing all the features like roads, water bodies, mountains etc.
3. Ask the analyse the map of India and locate Rajasthan
4. The teacher may explain the meaning of country and states for the students to understand.
5. The teacher can make the the students practice by locating two or more places on the map.
6. Refer to Resource 1

Resource 1:

Indian Map





Thar Desert



Bishnois



Khejadi Tree

Subtopic and Learning Objective #2

LO: Discover the various trees, uses and things we get from trees
Understand the meaning of deforestation and how it affects animals and human beings

Teacher Activity

1. The teacher may carry a perform Activity 2 for introducing the topic.
2. The teacher can ask the students to name the trees in Resource 2, a few examples of types of trees.
    - Provide shade in summer and shelter in winter.
    - Trees purify the air we breath
    - They provide shelter to many animals and birds.
    - Helps in rainfall.
3. Explain the meaning of deforestation and the effects of it.
    - Deforestation is the clearing, or cutting down, of forests. The word is normally used to describe the actions of humans in removing forests.
    - Trees are cut down so their wood can be burned or used to make things, such as buildings, furniture, or paper. Large areas of trees are removed so that the land can be used to grow crops or to provide places where farm animals can graze.
    - Trees and other green plants produce oxygen, the gas needed by humans and other animals to live. When trees are cut down, less oxygen is released into the atmosphere.

4. Explain the story of Amrita who protested against the deforestation by the king.

Check for understanding:

a) What is deforestation?

b) Not only human beings but also other animals are affected by deforestation. (true/false)

Resources Suggested

NCERT textbook, Resource 2

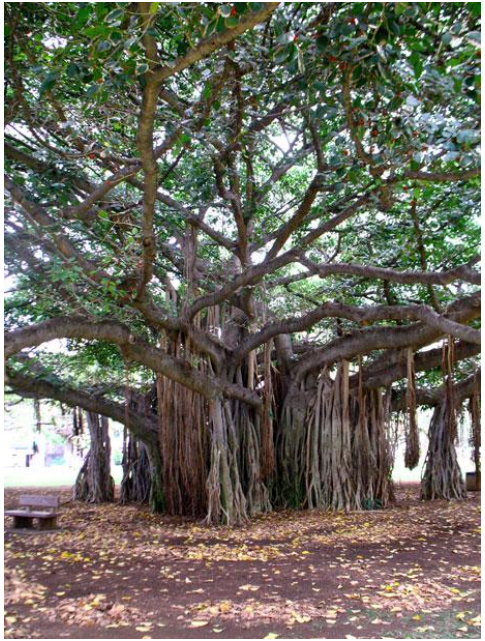
Activity 2

Name of the activity – Trees around you
Type of activity – Individual
Learning Objective: Understand the types of trees in the surroundings and the uses of the tree
Use it for – Observing and recording skills
Materials – Paper, pen, pencil, eraser

Teacher instructions:

1. The teacher inform the students a day before to note the trees around their house and names of the same.
2. They can seek the help of their elders to get the names of the trees
3. Observe the activities at home and understand the role of trees played in the day-to-day activities.
4. The next day the kids can explain their observations in a group to their friends.
5. The teacher can conclude the session by explaining the importance of trees.

Resource 2:



Banyan Tree



Neem Tree



OakTree



Mango Tree



Jackfruit Tree



Teak

Uses of trees





Save trees

Subtopic and Learning Objective #3

LO: Recall the story of Amrita Devi of Rajasthan

Teacher Activity

1. The teacher may explain the full story to the students or perform Activity 3.

Check for understanding:

a) Who was Amrita?
b) Who were her friends?

Resources Suggested

NCERT textbook

Activity 3

Name of the activity – Story writing: Amrita of Rajasthan
Type of activity – Individual
Learning Objective: Recall the full story
Use it for – Enhancing writing skills
Materials – Paper, pencil

Teacher instructions:

1. The teacher may ask the students to write the story of Amrita who gave her life to save trees.
2. The students may begin the story with the following sentence :
    - “It was a sunny morning……..
    - “Wow! You look so beautiful and tall ”, said Amrita to her friend ……..
3. The students can submit the stories to the teacher
4. The teacher can check for grammar mistakes, language usage and writing skills.

5. WORKSHEETS

Print or copy the worksheet questions on the blackboard and ask the students to attempt them. They can be given as homework or a class test as well.

Worksheet 1

Use it like: Class test, Home assignment, Revision

1. How can you tell that the people pg Khejadli village were plant and animal lovers?
2. Explain Amrita’s activity with trees.
3. Who were the strangers that Amrita saw in the village? Explain.
4. How did Amrita try to save her friends?
5. How did the King react when he heard that villagers gave life to save trees?

Worksheet 2

Use it like: A class test, home assignment, revision

1. **Name the tree near to your house.**
2. **Does it bear fruit?**
3. **Does it have flowers?**
4. **Draw the shape of its leaf**
5. **Do you like the tree? Why?**

6. SOLUTIONS

This section gives you sample answers for activities and questions listed above.

Worksheet 1

1. The people of this village took great care of the plants, trees and animals. Goats, deer, hares and peacocks roamed fearlessly there.
2. Amrita would choose a special tree for the day. She would put her arms around the tree trunk and whisper to the tree, “Friend, you are strong and beautiful. You care for us. Thank you tree. I love you very much. Give your strength to me also.
3. Amrita saw some woodcutters who came to fell trees in her village. They had axes with them. They said that the King had sent them to cut trees for wood.
4. Amrita went to the tree that the men were about to cut. She put her arms around the tree and hugged it tightly.
5. The King visited the village himself. There he learned about villagers’ respect for trees and animals.The villagers’ strong feelings for trees affected the King greatly. He ordered that from then on, no tree would be cut and no animal would be harmed in that area.

Worksheet 2

1. Answers depend on the choice made by the student.

7. EXTRA RESOURCES

Carry out the following suggested activities/ tasks if you have the time and resources to do them

1. **Reference Video links:**

   The students can be suggested to watch the following videos/ shown in class:

   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQwuog7_wmg

   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kn_3TPsKsq4

2. **Extension activity 1:**

   Carry out the following suggested activities/ tasks if you have the time and resources to do them

   Purpose: Understanding the impact of deforestation

   Prepare charts/ posters sighting the impacts of deforestation. Either causes or consequences can be depicted. A nice slogan can also be given on the top to complete the poster.