



Conservation  
Education  
Pre & Post  
Content Trees, Please!

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UNIVERSITY OF  
Redlands



INLAND EMPIRE  
RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## TREES, PLEASE! VOCABULARY LIST 9<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup>

Carbon Dioxide  
Environment  
Native (plant)  
Species

Compost  
Germination  
Natural Resource  
Non-native (plant)

Conserve  
Habitat  
Photosynthesis

Decompose  
Invasive (species)  
Pollination

- **Carbon Dioxide:** A colorless, odorless, incombustible gas, CO<sub>2</sub>, present in the atmosphere and formed during respiration and by burning carbon.
- **Compost:** A mixture of decaying organic matter used to fertilize soil, usually made by gathering plant material, such as leaves, grass clippings, and vegetable peels, into a pile or bin for decomposition.
- **Conserve/Conservation:** To save, preserve, or protect.
- **Decompose:** Chemical compound break down or cause to break down organic matter into component elements.
- **Environment:** The surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives or operates. The natural world as a whole or in a particular geographical area.
- **Germination:** The process by which a seed or spore awakens from dormancy and starts to sprout.
- **Habitat:** The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.
- **Invasive (species):** An organism (plant, animal, fungus, or bacterium) that is not native and has negative effects on our environment, or our health. Invasive plants and animals are the second greatest threat to biodiversity after habitat loss.
- **Native (plant):** A native plant is a plant that occurs naturally in a particular ecosystem without direct or indirect human actions.
- **Natural Resource:** Materials or substances such as a trees or water, that is formed in nature and is necessary or useful to humans.
- **Non-native (plant):** A non-native plant is a species living outside its native distributional range, which has arrived there by human activity, either deliberate or accidental. These plants could still be beneficial in providing food, habitat, or erosion control.
- **Photosynthesis:** The process used by plants, algae and certain bacteria to harness energy from sunlight into chemical energy.
- **Pollination:** The transfer of pollen from one flower to another flower for fertilization. Fertilization allows the flower to develop seeds.

- **Species:** A group of animals or plants that are similar in characteristics and can produce young animals or plants.
- **Epidermis:** In animals, outer layer of skin that consists mainly of epithelial cells and lacks nerve endings and blood vessels; in plants, outer layer of dermal tissue.
- **Guard cells:** Bean-shaped sclerenchymal cells in the epidermis; swell and shrink by osmosis to open and close stomata.
- **Osmosis:** Diffusion of water molecules across a membrane.
- **Mesophyll:** Specialized plant tissue inside leaves where photosynthesis takes place.
- **Vein:** Specialized plant tissue that transports water and minerals to the cells of leaves, and carries away dissolved sugar; made primarily of xylem and phloem.
- **Photosynthesis:** Process of using the energy in sunlight to make food (glucose).
- **Stomata** (singular, **stoma**): Tiny pore in the epidermis of a plant leaf that controls transpiration and gas exchange with the air.