

Name _____



Timeless Message

Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax* was published in 1971, yet it remains just as important today. The book's powerful message about protecting the environment and making responsible choices still applies to the world we live in. Many of the problems the story warns about—deforestation, pollution, and greed—continue to affect the planet. This is why *The Lorax* continues to be relevant decades after it was written.

One of the biggest issues in *The Lorax* is deforestation. In the story, the Once-ler cuts down all the Truffula Trees to make Thneeds. He does not think about how his actions harm the animals that rely on the trees for food and shelter. Today, deforestation is still a major problem, as forests are being destroyed to make space for farms, cities, and factories. The lesson in *The Lorax* teaches readers to think about the consequences of cutting down too many trees and to find better ways to use natural resources.

Another important theme in the book is pollution. The Once-ler's factory fills the sky with thick smoke and dumps waste into the water, forcing animals like the Swomee-Swans and Humming-Fish to leave. Today, pollution is still a big problem. Factories, cars, and plastic waste pollute the air, water, and land, making it harder for animals—and people—to stay healthy. The book reminds us that caring for the environment is necessary to keep the Earth clean and safe for everyone.

Finally, *The Lorax* warns about greed and overuse of resources. The Once-ler ignores the Lorax's warnings because he only cares about making money. By the time he realizes his mistake, it is too late. This same problem still exists today. Some businesses put profit before nature, using up resources too quickly without thinking about the future. The book encourages readers to think about making responsible choices, so we don't repeat the Once-ler's mistakes.

Even though *The Lorax* was written decades ago, its message is still clear: unless people take action to protect the environment, nature will suffer. The book continues to inspire children and adults to care for the planet and make a difference.

