Biodiversity in a forest near you

Observe and investigate the forest. Put an X by all the things in the list below, that you find in the forest you are investigating. Lastly, count all your X and turn the paper to see how big the biodiversity is in the forest you've investigated.

	Forest build-up
	Small and big tree trunks
	Tree tops at different heights
	At least three different tree species
	No clear signs of forestry (ex. tree stumps that have been machine cut)
	Pine tree with rough/uneven bark (older than 40 years)
	Trees with big branches
	Tree with divided tree trunk
	Trees that have a tree trunk with a diameter of more than 50 cm
	Aspens
	Big broad-leaved trees
	Big conifer trees
	Dead and rotting wood pulp
	Standing, dead broad-leaved trees
	Standing, dead conifer trees
	Hollow trees
	Standing coarse woody debris without branches
	Tree stump from a tree that has fallen naturally
	Fallen trees with bark
	Coarse woody debris without bark, laying on the ground
	Moss-covered tree trunks on the ground

	Life in the forest
	Ant-hills
	Fishbone beard lichen
	Moss-covered stones or rock
	Common juniper
	Different bushes
	Hazel tree (Southern Finland)
	Bird nests and squirrel nests in the trees
	Holes in trees, made by woodpeckers
	Nests made by mammals
	Mushrooms on the ground
	Mushrooms on dead trees
	Lingonberry
	Bilberries
	Lichen
	Animal eaten cones
	Animal tracks or droppings
	Polypore on living trees
	Polypore on dead trees
	Fern
	Insects
	Valuable forest habitat
	Kettle hole or similar sheltered hole in the ground
	Brook or creek
	Meadow beside the forest
	Wetlands
	Multiple glacial erratic or steep cliffs
	Hight differences
	Opening with bare rocks

Count all X. All in all _____

1–10: The forest is not yet a valuable nature area, but let's give it more time.

11–20: The forest has a good base to develop into a valuable nature area. There might already be found some uncommon or endangered species. Can you name any?

21–30: The forest is a great environment for many plants and animals. It might hide nests for an endangered species.

31–40: The forest would fit to be a nature reserve.

Over 40: The forest is a real treasure for nature. We should protect it. Only a couple percent of the Finnish forest is untouched primary forest.

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