Dr. Seuss’s *The Lorax* to Explore Environmental Issues/ELL Adaptation

**Name__________________________________________**

**Questions To Guide Your Listening**

What resources did the Onceler abuse? Were they renewable or non-renewable resources?

What other resources suffered because of the Onceler? What happened to them? Were they renewable or non-renewable?

What drove the Onceler to be so uncaring about the resources around him?

How could the Onceler have had less impact on the environment?

Why do you think the Onceler changed his ways?

What message do you get from this story?
Dr. Seuss’s *The Lorax* to Explore Environmental Issues/ELL Adaptation Define these terms:

resource

renewable

nonrenewable

environment

smog

deforestation
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Definitions:

Environment: all of the surroundings and conditions that affect living things, such as water, soil, land and air.

Renewable resource: a natural resource that the environment continues to supply or replace as it is used.

Nonrenewable resource: a resource that cannot be replaced once it is used.

Resource: Any useful material found in the environment.

Smog: a mixture of dangerous smoke and fog caused by pollution.

Deforestation: The process of clearing land of forests or trees.
Truffula Tree Revival Company  
234 Truffula Tree Lane  
Tuffula, USA  85000  
Date______________

Mr. Onceler  
Truffula Removal Company  
888 Chopping Lane  
Tuffula, USA 85000

Dear Mr. Onceler:

You are the one who destroyed the ____________, all of the surroundings and conditions that affect living things, such as water, soil, land and air in the town where the gripple grass grew. We would like to begin by stating all of the resources you affected.

Mr. Onceler, the thing that started this was the chopping down of one beautiful trufula tree and knitting it into a thneed. One tree led to another, and the object of money came into the project. Soon the whole town was affected by ____________, the process of clearing land of forests or trees. The poor barbaloots love the truffula fruits, and the Lorax had one thing to say, “Look at this, my son, look what you have done. Now I must send the barbaloots away!”

And those poor swamee swans. They can’t sing with ____________, a mixture of dangerous smoke and fog caused by pollution in their throats. The air is not clean, so the swamee swans left. The humming fish can’t swim in dirty water. Look at what you did! They all had to leave. They all had to leave from your thneed-making greed.

Only one person in the world can fix it. That person is you! Trees are a ____________, a natural resource that the environment continues to supply or replace as it is used? Trees are not like oil, a ____________, a resource that cannot be replaced once it is gone. Couldn’t you have planted a new tree every time you killed one? Mr. Onceler, you should have thought of the consequences. You might have barreled your waste and buried it after it was surely sealed. Remember—money is temporary happiness, but a clean conscience is eternal happiness.

Respectfully,

_____________
CEO  
Truffula Tree Revival Company