

March 12, 2022

Earth May Be Hiding Thousands of Tree Species

Student Comprehension Worksheet

Directions: Read the online *Science News* article "[Earth may have 9,200 more tree species than previously thought](#)," which describes researchers' efforts to estimate the number of tree species on Earth, and answer the following questions. A version of the article, "Earth may be hiding thousands of tree species," appears in the March 12, 2022 issue of *Science News*.

1. How many types of trees, or tree species, do scientists know about?
2. How many tree species have yet to be discovered, according to scientists' calculations? What is the new estimate for the total number of tree species?
3. In your own words, describe the methods that scientists used to reach their findings.
4. Why haven't the undiscovered tree species been found yet? Where might researchers discover many of these species?
5. What implications does the research have for the world's biodiversity, according to biologist Roberto Cazzolla Gotti?