

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

## Cause-and-Effect Guide Unit:

**1** Restated question:  
What causes farmers in South America to slash and burn the tropical rain forest, and what is the effect of that practice?

**2** Key Terms:  
*Tropical rain forest*: dense forest, usually in hot, rainy area  
*Habitat*: natural home

**4** Causes & Connections:

People need land for growing crops and raising cattle.

Leading to →

**3** Event & Background Information:

### Slashing and burning the tropical rain forest

Forest trees are cut down (slashed)

Remaining forest foliage is burned

Ashes provide short-term nutrients for growing crops and grazing cattle

Resulting in

**5** Effects & Connections:

Plowing and grazing cause soil erosion

↓  
Land quickly loses all nutrients; plants and grass won't grow

↓  
Land is abandoned, and new land has to be slashed and burned for growing more crops and grazing cattle

↓  
Unique habitat for plants and animals is lost

**6** Answer:  
Farmers in South America slash and burn the tropical rain forest to obtain land for farming and cattle grazing. The land quickly becomes unusable, creating the need for slashing and burning more land. The practice destroys the habitat of many plants and animals.