



BIODIVERSITY:
ECOSYSTEMS

THE RAINFOREST, A TREASURE

EXTRA STUDENT ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT	English reading, speaking
AGE / CYCLE	Grade 6, Unit 4. Ages 9-12, 12-15, 16 +
OBJECTIVES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comprehend reading, analyze, and enjoy texts. 2. Read with fluency and accuracy.
ESTIMATED TIME	60 minutes
ESSENTIAL QUESTION OR SCENARIO	<i>What are rainforests and what happens if they disappear?</i>
LEVEL - UNIT	Grade 6, Unit 4
KEY WORDS	rainforest, biodiversity, species, environment, deforestation, ecosystem
TYPES	PDF, Video
ORIGINAL LESSON AUTHOR	Natalie Michelle Araya Bellido, Corazon de Jesus School, <i>Liberia, Costa Rica</i>
SUPPLEMENT LESSON AUTHOR	Laraine Altun, Profesores Unidos, <i>Costa Rica</i>

These activities supplement the lesson plans, *"The Rainforest is a Treasure."*
They can be done in class or given as homework.

ANSWERS TO EXERCISES

1

Exercise 1

1. C 2. D 3. A 4. B 5. A 6. B 7. D 8. C

2

Exercise 2

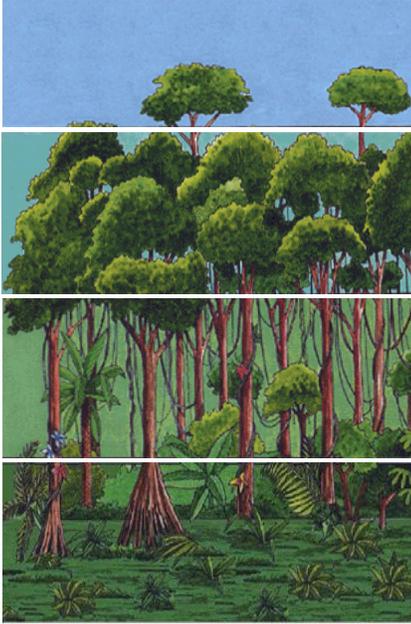
1. G. understory
2. H. species
3. E. canopy
4. F. sunlight
5. B. emergent
6. C. forest floor
7. D. biodiversity
8. A. environment

3

Exercise 3

toucan, spider monkey, sloth, macaw, Morpho butterfly,
boa constrictor, tree snail, poison arrow frog, rhinoceros beetle

THE FOUR LAYERS OF THE RAINFOREST



Emergent Layer

The tallest trees are the emergents, at the top of the forest. They are up to 200 feet above the forest floor. There is plenty of sunlight here. Eagles, monkeys, bats and butterflies are found in this area.

Canopy Layer

This part of the forest forms a roof over the two remaining layers, like a canopy. It is thick with leaves and branches. Many species live in this area since there is lots of food, including snakes, toucans and treefrogs. There is great biodiversity in the forest.

Understory Layer

There is little sunshine in this area, under the canopy, so the plants have to grow larger leaves to reach the sunlight. Many animals live here including jaguars, red-eyed tree frogs and pizotes. There is a large concentration of insects here.

Forest Floor

It's very dark in this environment, so almost no plants grow in this area. There are many insects here, like leaf-cutter ants, which feed on the leaves from the trees.

MY NAME _____

DATE _____

LEVEL

6th Grade

SUBJECT

Unit 4 Rainforest

DIRECTIONS

Read the instructions carefully. Ask for help if you need it.

1 Exercise 1

Identify which of the four layers of the rainforest each sentence describes:

A. Emergent B. Canopy C. Understory D. Forest Floor

1. ___ Big cats, like ocelots, live in this layer.
2. ___ There is no sunlight in this layer.
3. ___ Large birds live in the highest layer.
4. ___ This layer covers the two lower layers.
5. ___ The tops of the trees are in this layer.
6. ___ Leaves and branches are thickest in this layer.
7. ___ Leaves from the trees cover the ground in this layer.
8. ___ Many insects live in this layer.

2 Exercise 2

Unscramble the words from the reading and match them with their definition

A. habitat
B. the top of the rainforest
C. leaves cover this layer
D. a variety of plants and animals

E. this layer covers the 2 lower layers
F. a lot of this at the top and none at the bottom
G. where jaguars live.
H. animals or plants that are similar

1. ___ rnuedtsor _____
2. ___ escisep _____
3. ___ pncoya _____
4. ___ hlsutngi _____
5. ___ etgreemn _____
6. ___ efsotr lorfo _____
7. ___ vibsreitodyi _____
8. ___ Niverontnem _____

3 Exercise 3

Watch Exploring the Rainforest <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wuHuQwA-y5Y>

Name 5 animals you see in the video.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____