

Rainforest at a Glance 2

Q 1) Compose your own Acrostic poem based on a plant, animal, insect of the rainforest. Try to focus on sending the message about Conservation in your poem. Use the sample below to help.



Q2) Using the 3 panels here, choose words from each panel to put into 3 sentences, based on rainforests to show your comprehension of the words. Example: The canopy of the rainforest is very leafy and doesn't allow much light through.

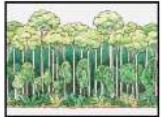
	<p>Acid Rain Rainfall that is acidic because of atmospheric pollution.</p>		<p>Carbon Dioxide A gas (also called CO₂) that is released when fuel burns and when animals breathe. Plants absorb it.</p>
	<p>Adaptation The special features that a living thing has to help it to survive in a particular habitat.</p>		<p>Climate The weather and temperature usually found in an area over a long period of time.</p>
	<p>Biodiversity The wide variety of living things on the Earth.</p>		<p>Colony A group of the same kind of animal that live and work closely together.</p>
	<p>Camouflage The way that an animal hides itself by changing its body shape or colour to blend into its surroundings.</p>		<p>Decomposition When something breaks up and decays.</p>
	<p>Canopy The upper layer of branches that forms a 'roof' in the forest.</p>		<p>Deforestation The destruction of trees over large areas.</p>

Q 2) Using the 3 panels here, choose words from each panel to put into 3 sentences, based on rainforests to show your comprehension of the words. Example: The canopy of the rainforest is very leafy and doesn't allow much light through. In total you should have 9 sentences completed here.



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Indigenous
A living thing that belongs naturally to an area.




Layer
A horizontal section of the forest. Each layer has plants and animals that are adapted for life in that area.



Liana
Rope-like plants that grow up trees.

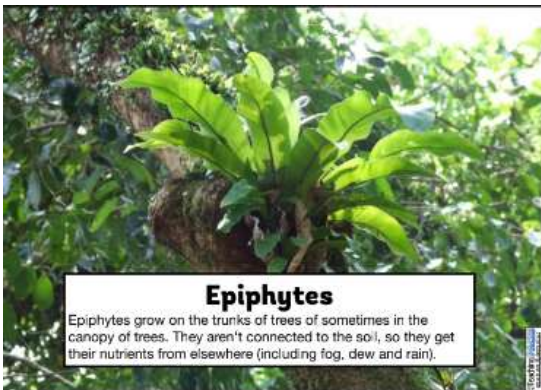


Logging
Felling and cutting trees.



Monsoon
Wind that changes direction with the seasons.

Q 3 Select two flowers/trees/ plants from the 4 below, sketch and write 1-2 sentences about each one.



Epiphytes
Epiphytes grow on the trunks of trees of sometimes in the canopy of trees. They aren't connected to the soil, so they get their nutrients from elsewhere (including fog, dew and rain).



Orchids
There are about 10,000 different types of tropical orchid! They often have special roots that are used to capture water and nutrients from the air.



Pitcher Plants
These carnivorous plants have traps that attract insects and drown them with nectar. They grow in places where the soil is too poor or too acidic for other plants to survive.



Rubber Tree
Rubber trees can live for up to 100 years and grow to heights of 130 feet. When a piece of bark is removed, a milky white sap (known as latex) flows out of the tree.

Q 4) What happens every 20 minutes in the rainforests of the world?

What Is Deforestation?

Deforestation occurs when trees are cut down across a wide area which is then permanently cleared for another use.



Did You Know...?
Every 20 minutes, an area of rainforest the size of 20 football pitches is cut down. If this rate continues, there will be no rainforests in 100 years.

Q 5) Tell us why rainforests are cut down in 2-3 sentences. The below slide will help you.

Why Are the Rainforests Cut Down?



Trees are useful and valuable. Among other things, they are used for paper, building and firewood.

Do you know what we use trees for?

The rainforest is home to a unique variety of tree species. Hardwoods such as teak or mahogany are strong and so are perfect for building and for making furniture. However, these trees are slow growing and are not easy to replace.



Q 6) What is happening to the world's population to demand such an increase of land to farm?
Expand in your answer, using evidence from below slide to help.



There are over 7 billion people on the planet. This number keeps growing. By 2100, there could be 11.2 billion people!



All of these people need food so land is cleared for farming.

Q 7) Tell us in 2-3 sentences out 'Subsistence Farming' is. Use slide below to help.

Q8) Tell us in 2-3 sentences what 'Commercial Farming' is. Use slide below to help.



Subsistence Farming
Known as slash and burn, families cut down small parts of the forest and burn it to improve the soil and make room for cattle. It is small scale and the forest can regenerate. But with more people taking more land, this chance of recovery is slower. Up to 48% of all deforestation is caused by subsistence farming.



Commercial Farming
This is farming that happens on a large scale. It is led by companies who need to produce on a much bigger scale to provide food and products for the wider world. Forest is cleared permanently for:

- **Cattle grazing:** this provides meat for restaurant chains and supermarkets.
- **Crops:** such as sugar cane and palm oil.

Q.9) What are the effects of deforestation. Discuss 5 at least in your answer. Use the information below to help you.

Deforestation can cause:

- Soil erosion (which can cause floods and landslides)
- Droughts / aridity (when an area becomes too dry due to lack of rain)
- Lack of biodiversity (the number of different species in an area becomes smaller)
- Habitat loss (animals and plants lose their homes)
- Climate change. Deforestation may contribute to global climate change.

Extinction

You may not know this, but it is a fact that a certain number of species go extinct naturally every day. Scientists call this the 'background extinction rate'.

However, the rate of species going extinct is currently between 1,000 and 10,000 times the background extinction rate. This is in part caused by habitat loss caused by deforestation.

Forests still cover 30% of the land, and deforestation has slowed in recent years. However, large amounts are still being lost each year.

When large areas of the rainforest are cleared, many species lose their natural homes. Some may be able to move to other areas, but most will perish. Even those that can move may not survive. There is a limit to how many species an area can support.

For example, a few acres of rainforest may hold enough prey animals for one tiger. If another tiger is introduced into the area, neither will have enough food to eat.

The same thing happens all the way down the food chain. Herbivores (plant-eating animals) need enough plants to eat. Plants need enough sunlight.

Forcing more and more animals into a smaller area will not work. There is a natural balance in the rainforest. This has gradually been formed over thousands of years. If an area of rainforest is destroyed, then the species that lived there will eventually be lost.

Q10) Logging companies are hired to cut down the trees of the rainforest by many different groups of people:- corporations, governments, farmers etc. Write a letter to a 'logging company' expressing your concerns about deforestation. Write 2-3 paragraphs. Use the information from 'Rainforest at a Glance 1' from last week and this week's work to help you.

