



Rainforest Habitat

1ST GRADE • 2ND GRADE

SUMMER LESSONS



Extended Learning Partnership

Rainforest: What is a Habitat?

Today we watched a video about the Tropical rainforest. Rainforests are special habitats because they have so much rain and sunshine that plants can grow all year long. Growing all year means trees can be very tall. Up to 200 feet tall. The Rainforest is used by animals in different ways and many animals only use a tiny part of the rainforest. There are many insects that live in the rainforest, one is called the Leaf Cutter Ant. This ant cuts up leaves with its big jaws and carries them home. When the ants return with the leaf pieces, they don't eat them- they take them to a special room in the ant hill home. It is there that the ants put the leaves and this where the ants grow their own food! Using the leaves as a garden to grow the mushrooms that all of the ants can eat.

Activity:

- Go to your pantry or where you keep food. Do you have foods that come from plants? Think about food that may come from rainforest plants- like chocolate, vanilla, tea, and coffee. Coconut, bananas, mango, and avocado also come from the tropical rainforests.
 - You can download the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Sustainable Palm Oil App. and use it to check the barcodes on the other food in your pantry to see if they have palm oil from the rainforest. This app helps people choose what food is good for the rainforest.

Writing prompt:

- If you were an animal in the rainforest, what layer would you want to live on and why? Would you be an animal that goes between layers? Use information you learned in the video. Draw a picture to go with your story.

Math:

- 37 birds live in the same rainforest tree, how many birds are in the tens place, and how many in the ones place.
- The rainfall in the Asia rainforest measured 70 inches one year. The rainforest in South America measured 93 inches. How much more rain did South America get?

Check for Understanding:

- Why can so many different kinds of animals live in the rainforest?

