

Rainforests

What Is a Rainforest?

Rainforests are big forests that get lots of rain. They are found in warm places.

Parts of a Rainforest

A rainforest is made up of different parts.



sunlit zone



canopy



understory



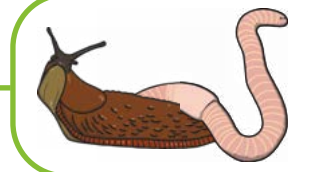
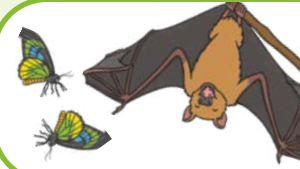
forest floor

The **sunlit zone** has lots of sunlight and tall trees.

The **canopy** is where the leaves of the trees join up to form a kind of umbrella. Red-eyed tree frogs and toucans are some of the animals that live in the canopy.

The **understory** is found under the canopy.

The **forest floor** is dark, damp and hot.



- Rainforests give us oxygen that we need to breathe.
- We get many things from rainforests such as bananas, chocolate, nuts and rubber.



- Lots of medicines we use come from plants in the rainforest.
- Rainforests are full of lots of different kinds of wildlife. Most of the animals here live in the canopy.

Questions

1. Where are rainforests found? Tick one.

cold places

warm places

icy places

2. What is found in the sunlit zone? Tick one.

tall trees

large animals

rubber

3. What do rainforests give us that we need to breathe? Tick one.

water

food

oxygen

4. What do we get from rainforests? Tick one.

metal

nuts

umbrellas

5. What is the forest floor like? Tick one.

dark, damp and hot

cool, dry and hard

soft, wet and cold

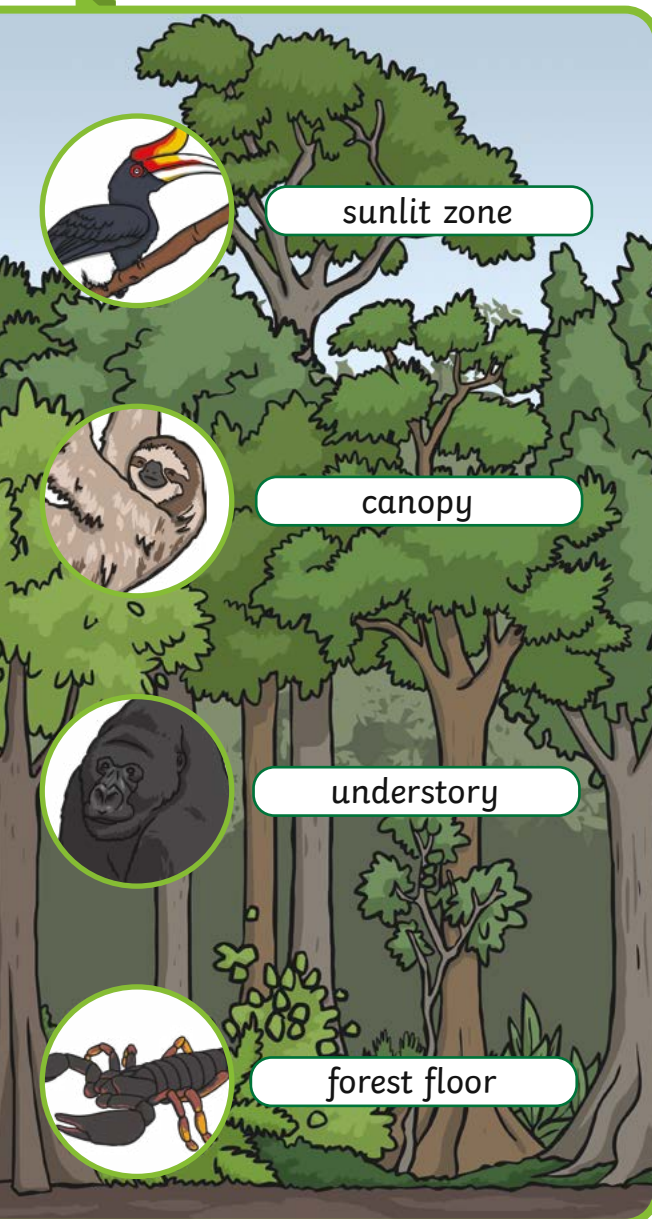
Rainforests

What Is a Rainforest?

Rainforests are a type of forest that have tall trees, warm weather and lots of rain. They are found in hot places such as Africa and Australia. The largest rainforest is called the Amazon in South America.

Parts of a Rainforest

A rainforest is made up of different layers or parts.



sunlit zone

canopy

understory

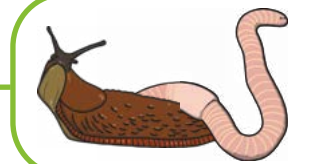
forest floor

The **sunlit zone** has the most sunlight and tallest trees. It is hot, wet and windy up here.

The **canopy** is where the branches of the trees join together. They form a kind of umbrella.

The **understory** is under the canopy. There is not much sunlight here.

The **forest floor** is dark, damp and hot. Very little sun reaches the ground as the leaves of the canopy block the sunlight.



Animals and Wildlife

Rainforests are full of lots of different kinds of animals and wildlife. There are so many animals, that some have not yet been discovered!

Did You Know...?

- Rainforests get at least 200cm of rain every year.



- Rainforests give us oxygen that we need to breathe.



- We get many things from rainforests such as bananas, chocolate, nuts, coffee and rubber.



- Many of the medicines we use come from plants in the rainforest.



Most of the creatures live in the canopy where it is hot and dry.

The animals move around here by flying, jumping and swinging.

Red-eyed tree frogs, sloths and toucans are some of the animals that live here.

Questions

1. In which hot places are rainforests found? Tick **two**.

Africa

Antarctica

Australia

2. Rainforests produce oxygen. Why do we need this? Tick one.

for eating

for breathing

for medicines

3. A rainforest is made up of different layers.

Select the correct options to connect each layer to its description.

sunlit zone	a	<input type="checkbox"/>	This layer is under the canopy. There is not much sunlight here.
canopy	b	<input type="checkbox"/>	This layer has the most sunlight and tallest trees.
understory	c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Here it is dark, damp and hot and very little sun reaches the ground.
forest floor	d	<input type="checkbox"/>	The branches join together here to form a kind of umbrella.

4. In which part of the rainforest do most of the animals live?

5. Find and copy one word that describes how the animals move around the canopy.

Rainforests

What Is a Rainforest?

Rainforests are large forests that have tall trees, warm weather and lots of different species of animals living there.

They are called rainforests because they get lots of rain.

They are found in hot places such as Africa, Asia and Australia. The largest rainforest is called the Amazon in South America.

Did You Know...?

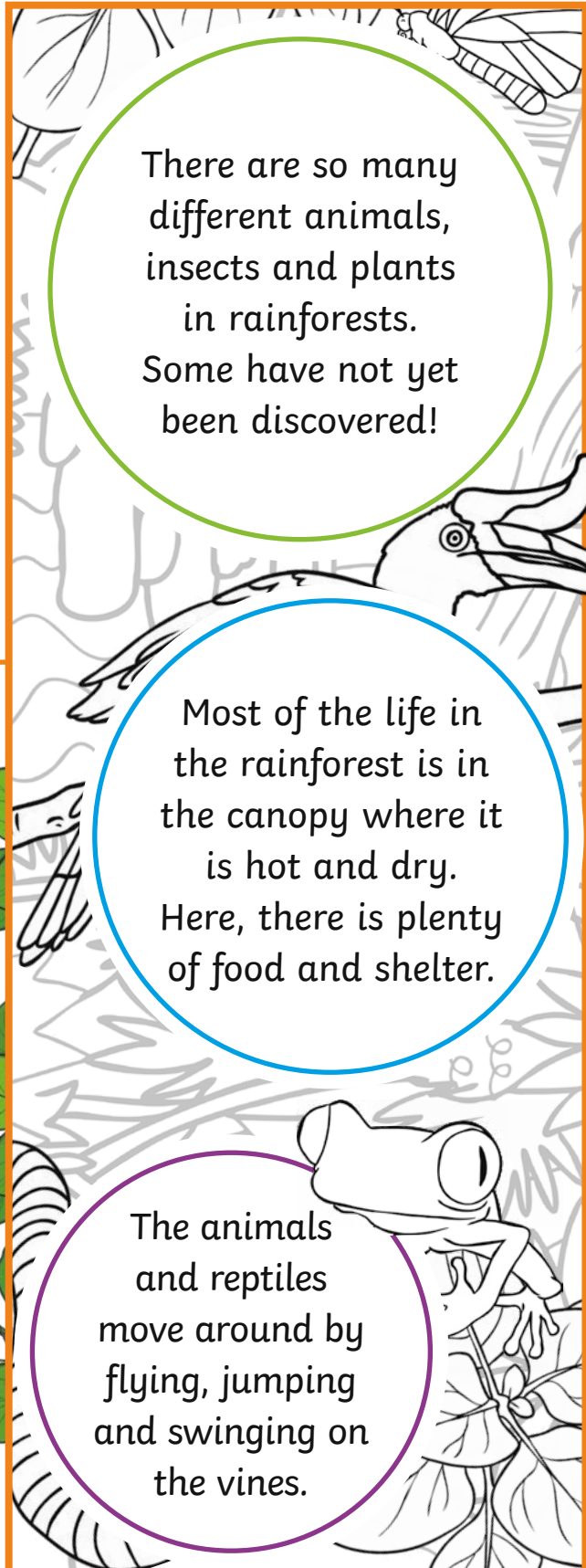
- Rainforests get at least 200cm of rain every year and sometimes more!
- Rainforests produce oxygen that we need to breathe.
- We get many things from rainforests such as bananas, chocolate, nuts, coffee and rubber.
- Around one quarter of the medicines we use come from plants in the rainforest.

Animals and Wildlife

There are so many different animals, insects and plants in rainforests. Some have not yet been discovered!

Most of the life in the rainforest is in the canopy where it is hot and dry. Here, there is plenty of food and shelter.

The animals and reptiles move around by flying, jumping and swinging on the vines.





The Emergent Layer

At the top is the emergent layer, also known as the sunlit zone.

This layer has the tallest trees and is sunny, wet and windy. Only a few animals live here such as bats, birds and butterflies.

The Canopy

This is where the branches and leaves of the trees are so close together that they join up to form a kind of umbrella. This is home to most of the animals and plants of the rainforest such as toucans, sloths, howler monkeys and fig trees.

The Understory

This layer is found under the canopy. It does not get much sunlight. The understory is home to animals such as jaguars, gorillas, elephants and snakes.

The Forest Floor

Here it is dark and humid. This means damp and hot. Very little sun reaches the forest floor as the leaves of the canopy block the sunlight. The smaller animals live here, such as slugs, scorpions and worms.

Questions

1. Why have rainforests been given this name?

2. Number the rainforest layers from 1-4, starting with the highest layer. The first one has been done for you.

forest floor

1 emergent

understory

canopy

3. Select the correct options to connect each layer to its description. The first one has been done for you.

emergent	a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Animals such as toucans, sloths and howler monkeys live here.
canopy	b	a	Only a few animals live here such as bats, birds and butterflies.
understory	c	<input type="checkbox"/>	The smaller animals live here, such as slugs, scorpions and worms.
forest floor	d	<input type="checkbox"/>	Home to animals such as jaguars, gorillas, elephants and snakes.

4. Why it is important that we look after our rainforests?

5. Find and copy one word that means the same as 'make'.

6. Fill in the missing word.

Around one _____ of the medicines we use come from plants in the rainforest.