

Science Story Adventures



Rainforests

Learning outcomes

» Students know different plants and animals inhabit different kinds of environments and have external features that help them thrive in different kinds of places. (Grade 1 - Life Sciences)

» Students know examples of diverse life forms in different environments, such as oceans, deserts, tundra, forests, grasslands, and wetlands. (Grade 3 - Life Sciences)

» Students know how to identify resources from Earth that are used in everyday life and understand that many resources can be conserved. (Kindergarten - Earth Sciences)

From: California's Science Content Standards

Books we read

The Umbrella by Jan Brett

Over in the Jungle: A Rainforest Rhyme by Marianne Berkes

Activities we did

» We looked at different household products and matched them with pictures of the rainforest plants that they come from.

» We did a call and response song called "A Walk Through a Rainforest." The leader says a line, and then the audience repeats it. Throughout the activity there are various actions. To start out, beat a rhythm on your laps to symbolize walking.

Look! (Pointing)

Over there! (Pointing)

There are some bushes.

There are some thick bushes.

We can't go this way. (Lean to one side)

We can't go that way. (Lean to the other side)

We'll have to go through it. (Make motion with your hands like you are brushing aside branches).

Continued on next page.

Today's craft: Pygmy Marmoset Puppet



You will need:

- » Pygmy marmoset puppet
- » Cardstock
- » Crayons or colored pencils
- » Scissors
- » Hole puncher or push pin
- » 5 brass tacks
- » Craft stick
- » Scotch tape

Directions:

1. Print out the puppet template on cardstock.
2. Color the different parts of the puppet and cut them out.
3. Make holes with the hole puncher or a pin in the places marked on the template with black dots to be able to stick the brass fastener through it. Attach the arms, legs and tail to the body using the brass fasteners.
4. Tape the craft stick to the back of the puppet.

A Walk Through a Rainforest (cont'd)

Look! (Pointing)
Over there! (Pointing)
There's a tree.
There's a tall tree. (Looking up)
We can't go this way. (Lean to one side)
We can't go that way. (Lean to the other side)
We'll have to climb it. (Climbing motion, standing up.
Stop for a moment to look out when you get to the top,
then climb back down, sitting down.)

Look! (Pointing)
Over there! (Pointing)
There's a river.
There's a wide river. (Spreading arms out)
We can't go this way. (Lean to one side)
We can't go that way. (Lean to the other side)
We'll have to swim across it. (Swimming motions)

Look! (Pointing)
Over there! (Pointing)
There's some mud.
There's some dirty, sticky mud.
We can't go this way. (Lean to one side)
We can't go that way. (Lean to the other side)
We'll have to go through it. (Sucking sound and hand motions)

Look! (Pointing)
Over there! (Pointing)
There's a cave.
There's a dark cave.
We can't go this way. (Lean to one side)
We can't go that way. (Lean to the other side)
We'll have to go in it. (Looking a little scared and nervous)

Look! (Pointing and whispering)
Over there! (Pointing and whispering)
There are some eyes.
There are some green eyes.
There are some green, mean eyes.
The eyes of...the eyes of...A JAGUAR!

Do all of the motions in reverse, this time slapping your thighs hard and fast as if you were running until you arrive safely back home.

Adapted from traditional chant "Going on a Bear Hunt."

Material prepared by staff of the Naturalist Center at the California Academy of Sciences

Want to find out more?

Here is a selection of further resources to explore in the Naturalist Center, in the public library or at home. Please ask if you can't find what you're looking for.

Books

A Home in the Rain Forest by Christine Taylor-Butler. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QH541.5 .R27 T39 2006

How Monkeys Make Chocolate: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Rainforest by Adrian Forsyth. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QK98.5 .A1 F67 2006

Rainforests: An Activity Guide for Ages 6 - 9 by Nancy F. Castaldo. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QH86 .C37 2003

Rainforests Revealed by Jen Green. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QH86 .G72

iUn, Dos, Tres! Espejismos del Bosque Tropical por Manuel Moas. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QH541.5 .R27 M62 2004

DVDs

Totally Tropical Rain Forest. Nat. Ctr. Media QH541.5.R27 .T67 2005

Websites

Missouri Botanical Garden Rainforest Plants
<http://www.mbgnet.net/sets/rforest/plants/>

Passport to the Rainforest
<http://passporttoknowledge.com/rainforest/intro.html>

PBS Journey Into Amazonia
<http://www.pbs.org/journeyintoamazonia/index.html>

Rainforest Alliance Kids' Corner
<http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/kids>

