

Exploring the Tropical Rainforest

Learning objective: To describe the characteristics and layers of a tropical rainforest using geographical vocabulary.

Finn the dolphin has travelled from the ocean to visit the rainforests! Use this frame to help you write a detailed report about what makes these forests so special. Use the word bank to help you link your ideas.

Tropical rainforests are vibrant, lush ecosystems found near the equator...

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · in addition · located in · dense vegetation · canopy · understory · biodiversity

1. Where in the world are rainforests found and what is the climate like there?

2. What happens in the Emergent layer (the very top)? Describe the trees and the sunlight.

3. What is the Canopy layer? How does it act like a giant umbrella for the forest floor?

4. What can we find in the Understory and on the Forest Floor? Think about the light and the animals.

5. Why are rainforests so important for our planet? Think about oxygen and wildlife.

6. What are some of the threats facing the rainforest today and why should we protect them?

Extension challenge: Can you research a specific animal that lives in one of the layers and explain how it has adapted to survive there?