KS2 Rainforest Activities
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### Teachers’ Notes

#### Learning Objective

- To recognise the role of green plants in food production
- To know the role of at least 3 different plants and how we can use them
- To identify which layers of the rainforest different animals live in

#### Learning Outcomes

**All children will be able to:**
- Know which part of the world different plants come from and the conditions they need to survive
- List at least 3 products that rainforest plants can be used for (e.g. cooking, medicinal purposes, and perfumery)
- Suggest which layer of the rainforest different animals live in

**Some children will be able to:**
- Identify other rainforest plants or trees and suggest what they could be used for (e.g. cocoa beans used in chocolate)
- Explain why different animals may live in different layers of the rainforest

### Curriculum Links

**Science: Sc3. 5b** –  
Pupils should be taught about the different plants and animals found in different habitats  
**Sc3. 5e** –  
Pupils should be taught about how nearly all food chains start with a green plant.  
**Geography: 3a**  
Pupils should be taught to identify and describe what places are like

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**Notes for rainforest plants activity**

**This activity should be completed at Marwell’s Tropical World.**

The aim of this activity is to encourage the children to look out for and identify the different plants that can grow in the rainforest, and then recognise the variety of different products that can be made from them. The children can find the answers to the questions on information boards throughout Tropical World and the rest can be answered through observation or own experience. An answer sheet has been provided for you to prompt and guide the children.
Rainforest Plants

On your journey around Tropical World look out for the plants below and use the information on the signs to create a fact file for each. One example has been done for you.

Name of plant: Banana plant

In the world you will find it in: the Canary Isles

Did you know? The banana plant is not a tree! This is because it has a false stem which grows underground.

**Paw-paw** - grows on the ......................... tree.
In the world you will find it in .........................

It can be used for ........................................

......................................................

 ......................................................

Name of plant: ...................

In the world you will find it in

........................................................

Pure vanilla extract is expensive because...........................

What does a papaya leaf look like? Draw one here.

What colour are the vanilla flowers?

......................................................

......................................................

Which part of the ginger plant do we use for food? Circle the correct answer.

Roots

Flowers

Leaves

Ginger

In the world you will find it in ..................

It can be used for .................................

......................................................
Custard Apple
In the world you would find it in

The fruit tastes

The seeds and leaves can be used to make

This is the peel of a
It would feel
In the world you would find it in
It takes 2-3 years to fruit, and

The fibre from the leaves can be used to make:

What other plants can you think of that we eat or use to make other products?
Rainforest plants answer sheet

**Paw-Paw** – grows on the papaya tree. In the world you will find it in **Central America**. It can be used for **food**, making chewing gum and toothpaste, tenderising meat and treating indigestion.

Name of plant: **vanilla orchid**. In the world you will find it in **Mexico**. Pure vanilla extract is expensive because the plants have to be pollinated by hand, and the pods take a long time to mature.

What colour are the vanilla flowers? **Green/greenish-yellow**

**Ginger**
In the world you will find it in the **Pacific Islands**. It can be used for **cooking or treating indigestion**.

Which part of the ginger plant do we use for food? Circle the correct answer.
- Roots
- Flowers
- Leaves

Which part of the ginger plant do we use for food? Circle the correct answer.
Custard Apple
In the world you would find it in the Caribbean Islands.
The fruit tastes sugary/sweet.
The seeds and leaves can be used to make soap and perfume.

This is the peel of a pineapple.
It would feel prickly, bumpy, spiky etc.
In the world you would find it in Brazil. It takes 2-3 years to fruit, and 5 months to ripen.

The fibre from the leaves can be used to make pina, which is a fine cloth material.

What other plants can you think of that we eat or use to make other products?

- Coconut tree
- Avocado plant
- Cocoa beans for chocolate making
- Sugar cane
- Coffee beans
On your walk around the park looking for rainforest animals, think about which layer of the rainforest they would be best at living in.

Draw or write the names of the rainforest animals you see in the layer of the rainforest you think they might live in. One example has been done for you.
## Rainforest animals answer sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rainforest Floor</th>
<th>Understorey</th>
<th>Canopy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar tree boa</td>
<td>Lemurs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaded lizard</td>
<td>Tokay gecko</td>
<td>Tamarins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Ring-tailed coati (Forages on the ground, but also climbs trees to look for fruit)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rainforest Floor</th>
<th>Understorey</th>
<th>Canopy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bongo</td>
<td>Green and black poison dart frog</td>
<td>Sulawesi crested macaque (also forages on the rainforest floor during the day)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Ocelot (can climb trees)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rainforest Floor</th>
<th>Understorey</th>
<th>Canopy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Okapi</td>
<td></td>
<td>Siamang gibbon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giant anteater</td>
<td></td>
<td>Western black and white colobus monkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collared peccary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pygmy hippo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowland anoa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazilian tapir</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo buffalo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rainforest animals at Marwell

A. Brazilian tapir
B. Colobus monkey
C. Bongo
D. Okapi
E. Ocelot
F. Coati
G. Reptiles (excluding tortoises)
H. Macaque
I. Anoa, siamang gibbon and stick insects
J. Lemurs and emperor tamarins
K. Cotton-top tamarins, Goeldi’s monkey, white-faced saki monkey, and golden-headed lion tamarins
L. Pygmy hippo
M. Collared peccary
N. Giant anteater