A vibrant illustration of a rainforest scene. At the top right, a brown monkey sits on a branch, looking thoughtful. A bright green snake is coiled around a branch on the left. In the center, a leopard with yellow and black spots is walking through the grass. To the right, a colorful toucan with a large beak is perched on a branch. In the foreground, a green frog with a red eye and a red flower-like pattern on its back is sitting among large green leaves. The background shows a river and more dense foliage.

the RAIN FOREST

Written by Kathy Gleason

Illustrated by J.R.Craig



The Rain Forest

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the RAIN FOREST

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STRUCTURED GUIDED READING

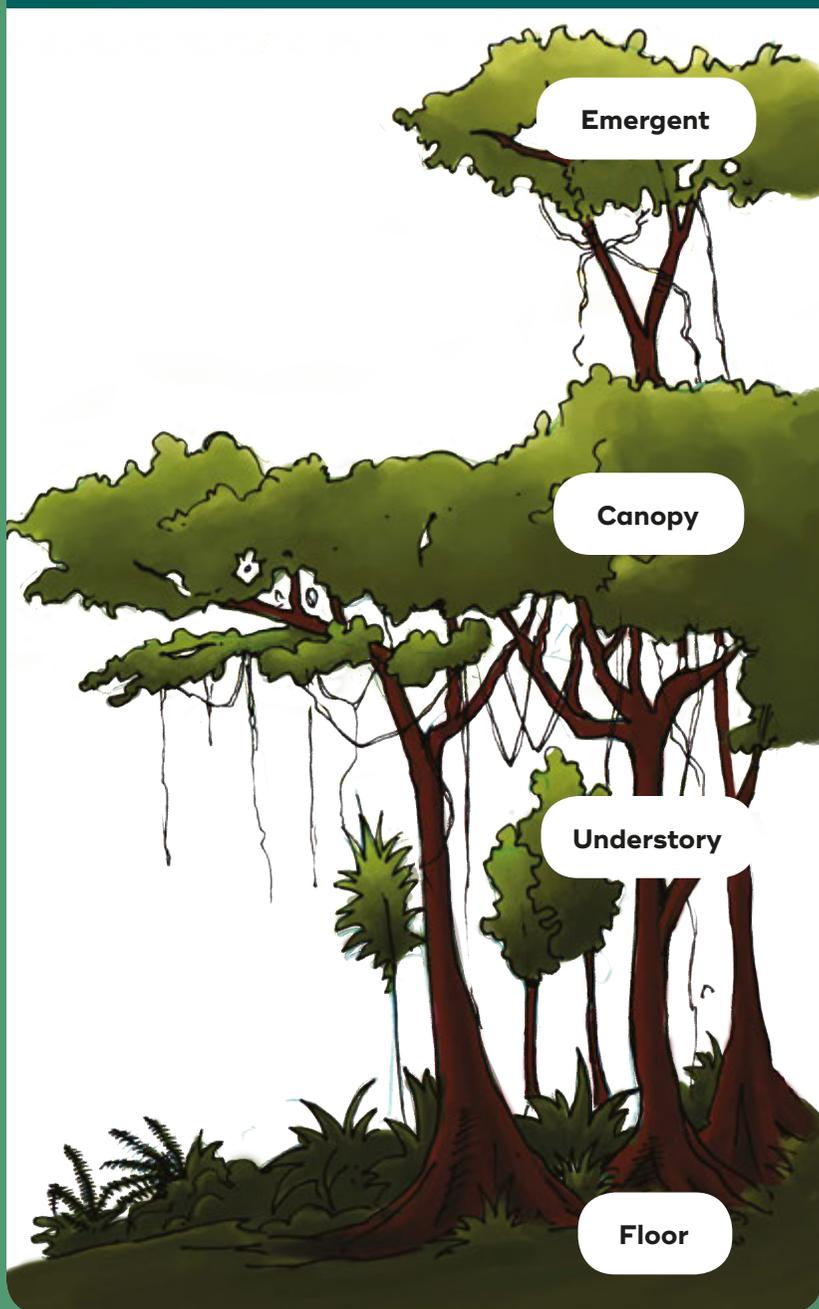
BUILDING BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

rainforest



BUILDING BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

levels

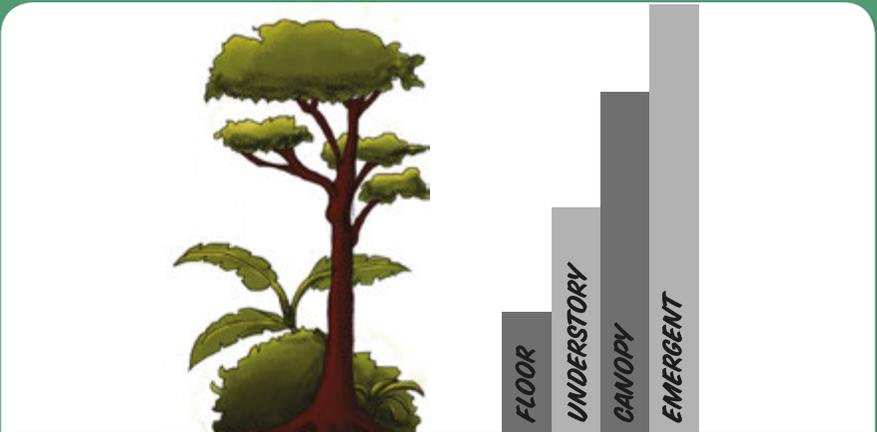


VOCABULARY



climate

The land has its own climate.



level

Rain forests have four levels.

VOCABULARY



protect

The treetops protect it.

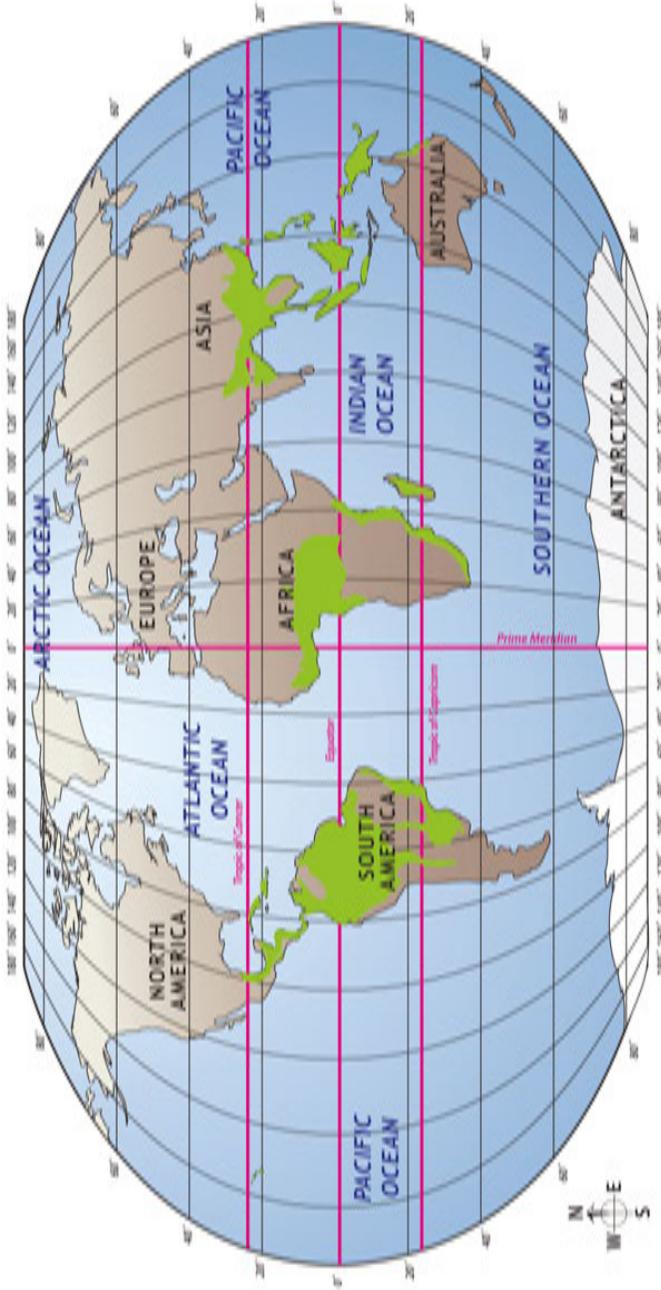


cure

The plants here can help cure diseases.

MAPS AND STUFF

Rain Forests of the World



■ Global rain forest areas



Rainforest



Temperate Forest



Desert



Grassland



Taiga



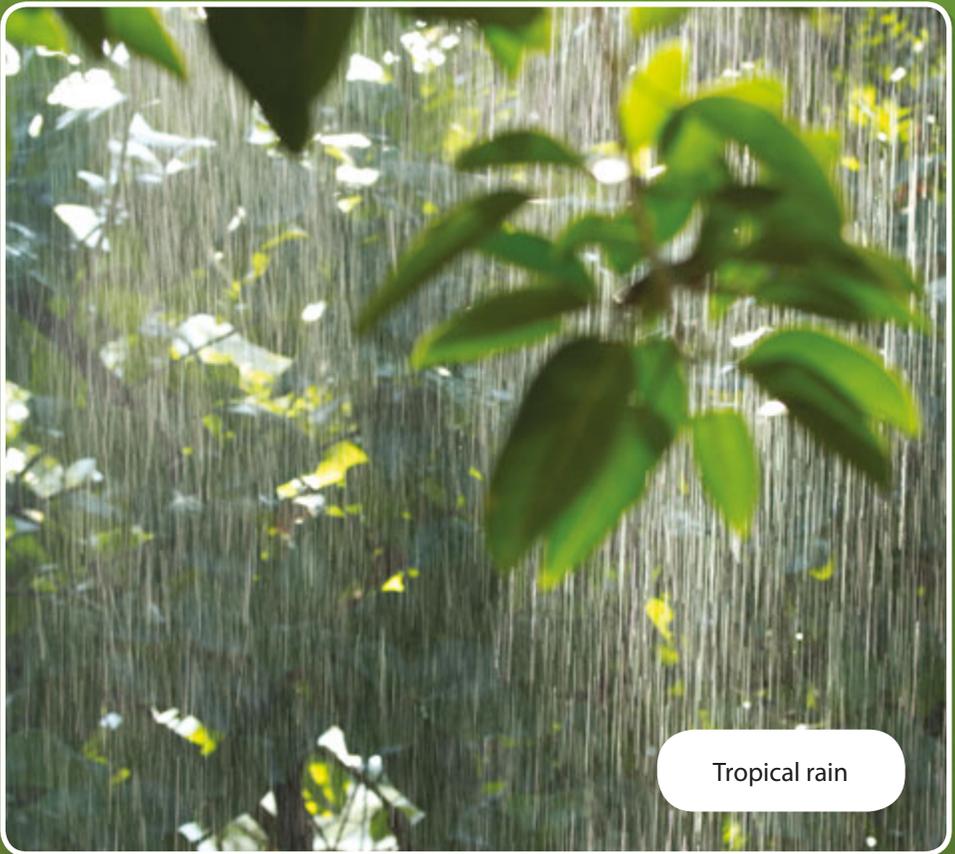
Tundra

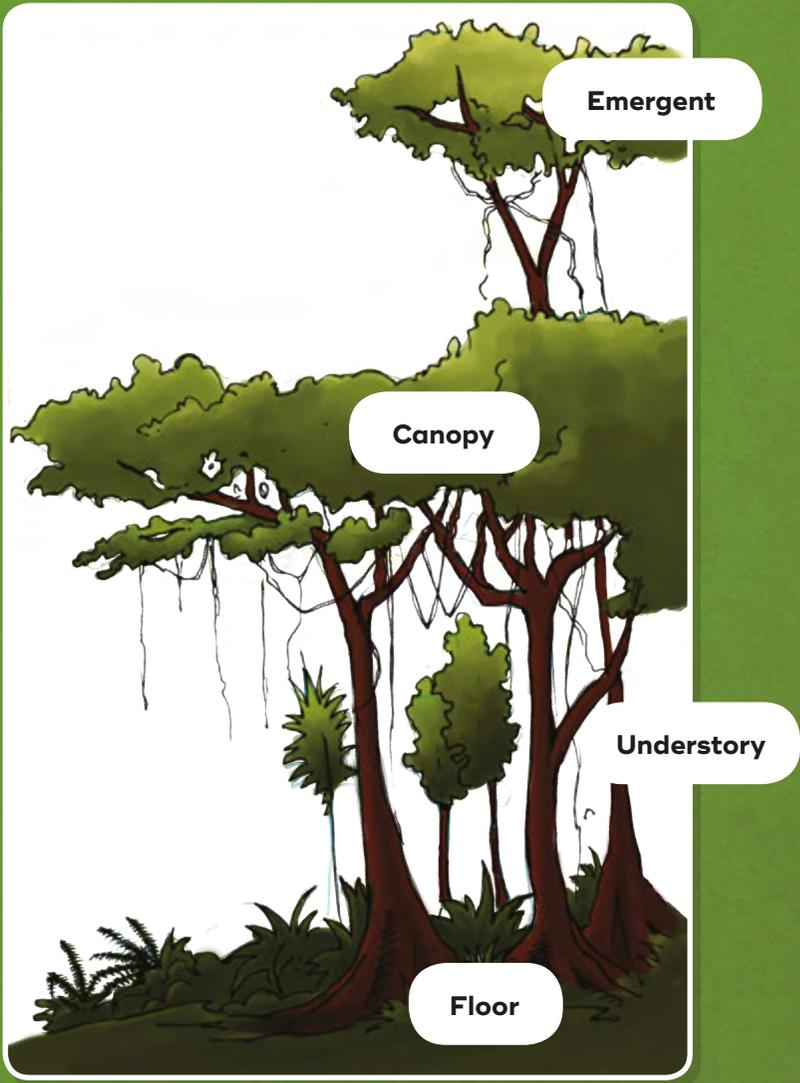
Introduction

- 1 Earth has six major **biomes**. A biome is a special type of place. It has its own climate. Animals and plants live there. Some of them only live in that biome.

The Tropical Rain Forest

- 2 The **tropical** rain forest is a biome. It's also called the jungle.
- 3 The rain forest is a warm, wet part of Earth. The rain forest gets more than 70 inches of rain each year. The rain forest is home to many living things.





Levels of a Rain Forest

- 4 Rain forests grow in four levels. The highest one is the emergent layer. In the middle are the canopy and the understory. The lowest is the forest floor.

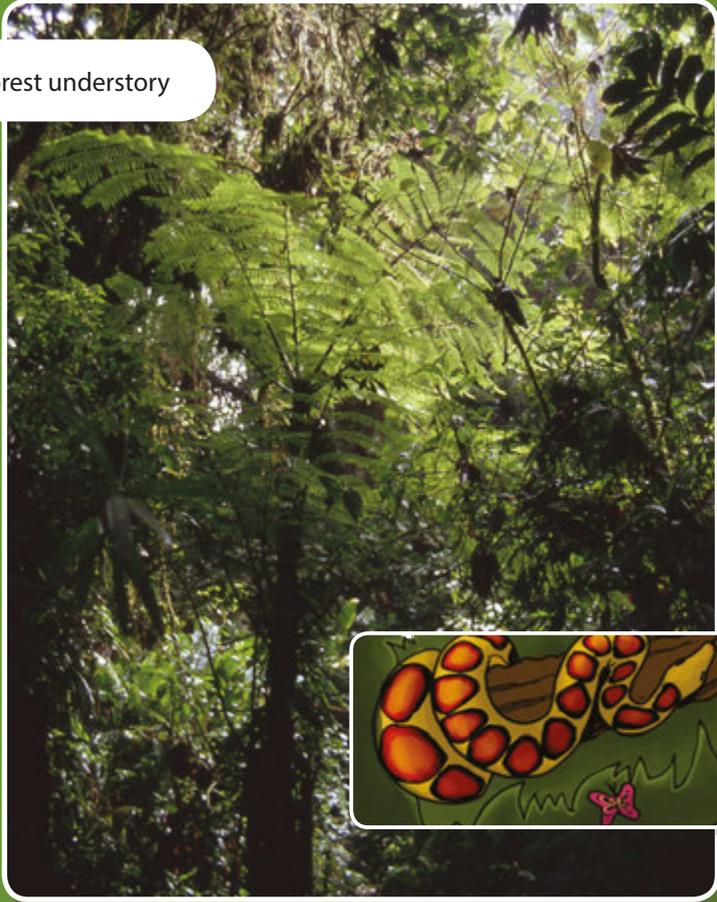
A capuchin monkey eating fruit.



The Emergent and the Canopy

- 5 The tallest trees are called emergents. They rise above the canopy. They leave spaces where the sun shines through.
- 6 The canopy is high off the ground. This is where the treetops are. Trees grow close together.
- 7 Animals move from tree to tree. Some of the animals never touch the ground. They find food and water here.
- 8 Monkeys live here. There are also birds, snakes, and frogs.

Rain forest understory



The Understory

- 9 The understory is between the floor and the canopy. Treetops protect it. They block most of the sun. Young trees grow here.

- 10 Plants here are dark and green. Flowers grow among the leaves and branches. Insects, snakes, and bats live here.

Rain forest floor



The Forest Floor

- 11 The forest floor is the bottom level. It is dark and wet here.
- 12 Dead leaves fall to the forest floor. So do dead animals. These dead things are food for plants and animals.
- 13 Jaguars and elephants live here. The forest floor has many big animals.

An Important Part

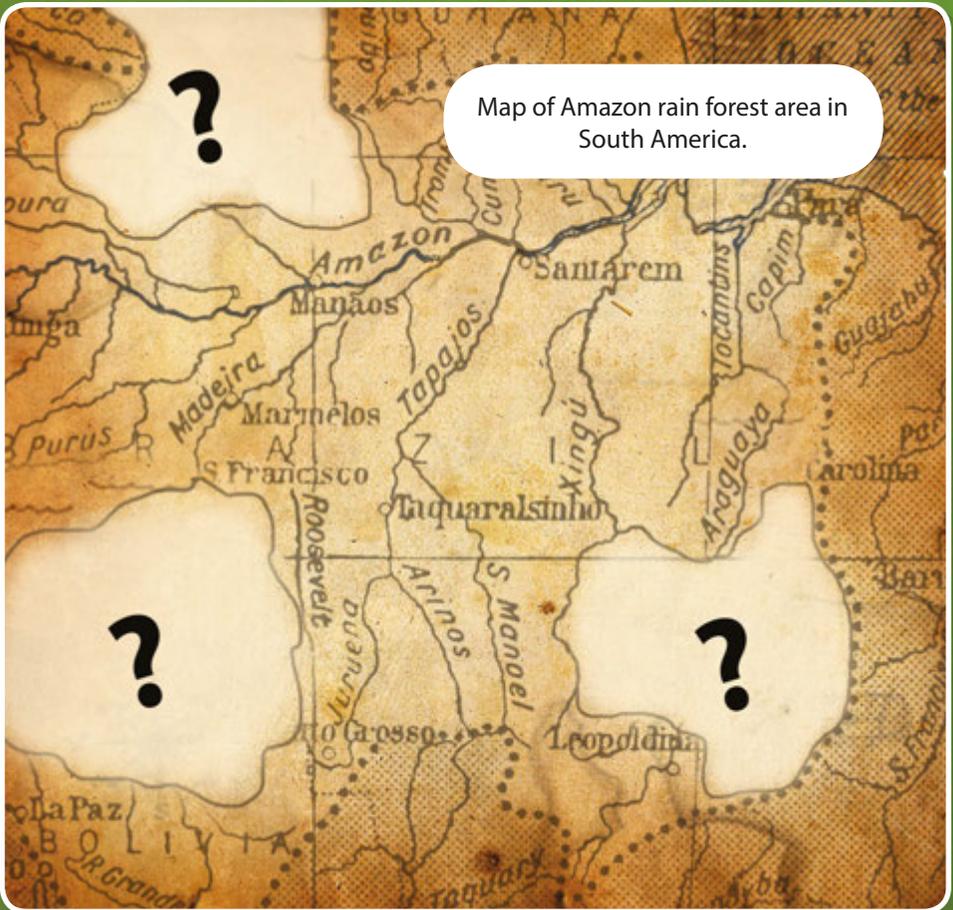
- 14 The rain forest is an important part of Earth. The plants help clean the air.
- 15 The plants also can help cure diseases. Many medicines come from these plants. They are useful to us.



The Amazon rain forest

More to Explore

- 16 Some plants and animals only live in the rain forest. They do not live anywhere else.
- 17 The rain forest is full of life. We have not yet seen it all. It's hard to get to some parts. There is more to explore.





Rain forest where trees have been cut down.

Conclusion

- 18 The rain forest is in danger. People are cutting trees down. This hurts the earth. Animals lose their home.

- 19 We need the rain forest. It helps clean our air. It gives us medicines, too. People are trying to protect it. They want to save it before it's gone.

GLOSSARY

biome – a type of home for many plants and animals

canopy – a covering that gives shade or shelter

tropical – from a warm, wet part of Earth

understory – a middle layer of plants in a forest

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REFERENCES

Bartholomew, L., & Bartholomew, A. *The Rain Forest Book for Kids*.

Rainforest Alliance: rainforest-alliance.org/kids

HIGH FREQUENCY WORDS

Group 17

#401-425

401

done

414

person

402

English

415

became

403

road

416

shown

404

halt

417

minutes

405

ten

418

strong

406

fly

419

verb

407

gave

420

stars

408

box

421

front

409

finally

422

feel

410

wait

423

fact

411

correct

424

inches

412

oh

425

street

413

quickly



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