

# Rainforests: Layers of the Rainforest

<b>Aim:</b> To describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle in the context of the layers of a rainforest.  I can describe and understand the features of the layers of a rainforest.	<b>Success Criteria:</b> I can name the four layers of a rainforest.  I can tell you about the climate in each layer.  I can tell you about the plants found in each layer.  I can tell you some animals that live in each layer.	<b>Resources:</b> <a href="#">Lesson Pack</a>  Non-fiction books about the rainforest for additional research
	<b>Key/New Words:</b> Forest floor, understory layer, canopy layer, emergent layer.	<b>Preparation:</b> <a href="#">Differentiated Rainforest Layers Activity Sheet</a> per child  <a href="#">Which Layer? Action Cards</a> cut into cards

**Prior Learning:** In lesson 2, children will have learnt about where rainforests are located in the world, and will have found out about rainforest climates.

## Learning Sequence

	<b>Inside a Rainforest:</b> Show children the image of a rainforest. Draw their attention to the different layers that can be seen. <i>What do you notice about the plants in a rainforest? Are all the plants the same height? Are they all the same shade of green? Do they have the same kinds of leaves? Why do you think they are all different?</i>				
	<b>Layers of the Rainforest:</b> Starting at the top, talk children through the main layers using the slides on the <a href="#">Lesson Presentation</a> to give the key facts. <i>What kinds of animals live here? What are the plants like in this layer?</i>				
	<b>Rainforest Layers:</b> Using the <a href="#">Rainforest Layers Activity Sheet</a> , children name the layers of the rainforest and sort facts about each layer. They could go on to use non-fiction books to find out more about one layer. <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td>  Children sort facts about climate only.         </td> <td>  Children sort facts about climate and plant types.         </td> <td>  Children sort facts about climate, plant types and animals.         </td> </tr> </table>	 Children sort facts about climate only.	 Children sort facts about climate and plant types.	 Children sort facts about climate, plant types and animals.	
 Children sort facts about climate only.	 Children sort facts about climate and plant types.	 Children sort facts about climate, plant types and animals.			
	<b>Which Layer?</b> Show children the actions for each layer of the game on <a href="#">Lesson Presentation</a> . As you read out a fact using the <a href="#">Which Layer? Action Cards</a> , they should adopt the right pose to show which layer of the rainforest you are describing. <i>Which facts match each layer?</i>				

## Taskit

- Buildit:** Turn a corner of your classroom into a rainforest using the [Layers of the Rainforest Display Pack](#) (this will be useful for the next lesson). Children could use cardboard tubes and different kinds of paper and card to make the layers of the rainforest, add their own drawings of animals and make their own word cards covering key vocabulary.
- Paintit:** Look at the jungle paintings in the [Henri Rousseau Photopack](#). See which animals and plants you can spot. Create your own jungle scenes pictures, inspired by Henri Rousseau.
- Readit:** Read Rudyard Kipling's "The Jungle Book" as a class. Have children seen the animated version? How does the original story compare? Can they spot some of the features of a rainforest in Kipling's descriptions? Children could use these [Jungle Book Page Borders](#) to record their ideas.