

*"We have only sampled a tiny fraction
of the foods in the rainforest."*

ACTIVITY #2

TREASURES FROM THE RAINFOREST

Do you know the rainforest is also the world's largest treasure chest? Look at the list of things that come from the rainforests. Put a check mark next to each thing that is found in your home. As an additional activity, graph out the ten most common items as a class.

WOODS

Look at furniture, floors, doors, toys, cabinets and models

- balsa
- mahogany
- rosewood

FOOD PRODUCTS

- avocado
- banana
- Brazil nuts
- cashew nuts
- coconuts
- coffee
- cola
- grapefruit
- guava
- heart of palm
- lemon
- lime
- macadamia nuts
- mango
- orange
- papaya
- passion fruit
- pepper
- pineapple

- plantain
- tangerine
- tapioca
- tea

HOUSEPLANTS

- African violet
- begonia
- bird's nest fern
- bromeliad
- Christmas cactus
- corn plant
- dieffenbachia
- fiddle-leaf fig
- orchid
- philodendron
- rubber plant
- snake plant
- umbrella tree
- zebra plant

OILS

Look in medicines, insect repellents, suntan lotions, soaps, candles, snack foods and perfumes

- camphor
- coconut
- lime

- palm
- rosewood
- sandalwood

SPICES AND FLAVORS

- allspice
- black pepper
- cardamon
- cayenne
- chili pepper
- chocolate or cocoa
- cinnamon
- cloves
- ginger
- nutmeg
- paprika
- turmeric
- vanilla

GUMS AND RESINS

- chicle
Look for chewing gum
- rubber
Look for balloons, erasers, foam rubber, rubber bands, gloves, hoses and tires

"Giant bamboo plants can grow up to nine inches a day."

ACTIVITY #3

CREATE YOUR OWN GLOSSARY

Choose ten words from the following list and create a glossary. Use resources at the library or the internet. State the sources.

CANOPY
ECOSYSTEM
NUTRIENTS
CONSERVATION

RAINFOREST
ENDANGERED
ETHNOBOTANIST
SURINAME

ARBOREAL
INDIGENOUS
CLIMATE
SHAMAN

WORD	DEFINITION
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1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

"There are native tribes who have lived in the rainforest for thousands of years without causing any long-term damage."

ACTIVITY #4 WORD SEARCH

Search for the words listed below. Words can go up and down or across.

IPECAC	ECOSYSTEM	ACT
CANOPY	ECOTHUMB	TRIBES
SHAMAN	ENDANGERED	EPIPHYTE
UNDERSTORY	SLASH	SPECIES
SLOTH	BURN	NUTRIENTS
EMERGENT	INDIGENOUS	ENVIRONMENT
TOUCAN	ARBOREAL	CLIMATE
EQUATOR	TOPSOIL	TROPICS
ETHNOBOTANIST	SURINAME	

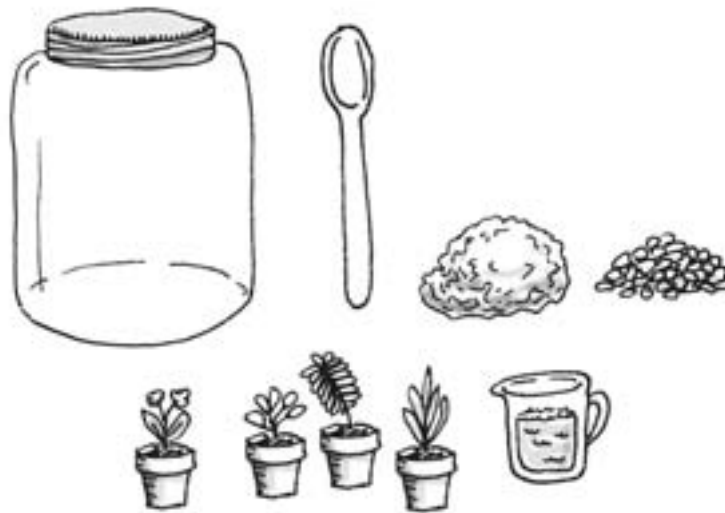


"The Amazon gets nine feet of rain every year."

ACTIVITY #5

RAINFOREST IN A JAR

Collect the following items to create a rainforest in a jar:
Large round jar with a lid, a large spoon, soil or compost, gravel, small plants and water.



Put a layer of gravel at the bottom of the jar, and add three to four inches of soil or compost. Plant the smallest plant you have first. Poke a hole in the soil and put the roots of the plant in the hole. Fill the hole around the roots with dirt, then repeat with other plants.

Lightly water plants and put the lid on the jar. Keep the jar in a warm place out of direct sunlight.



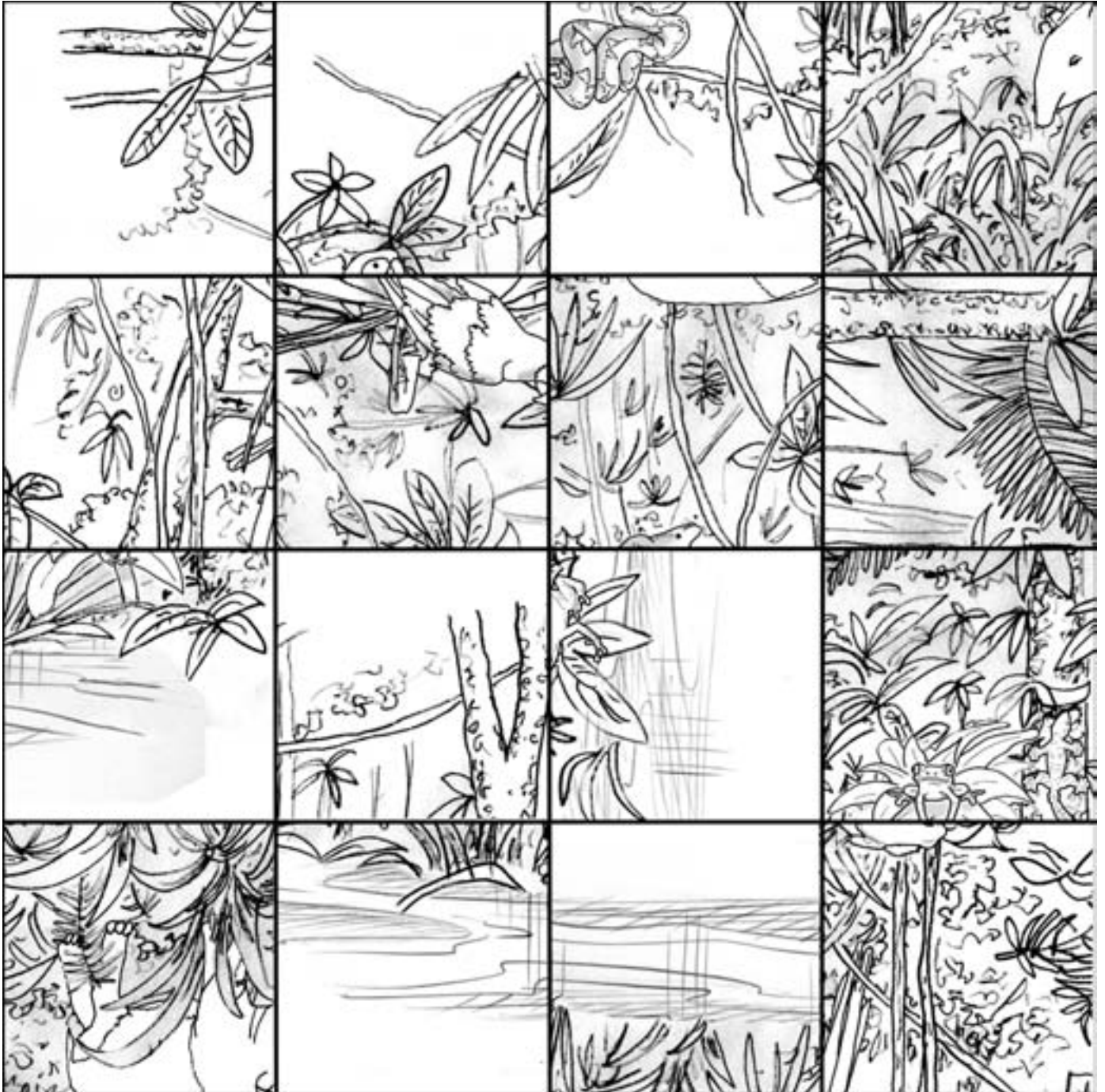
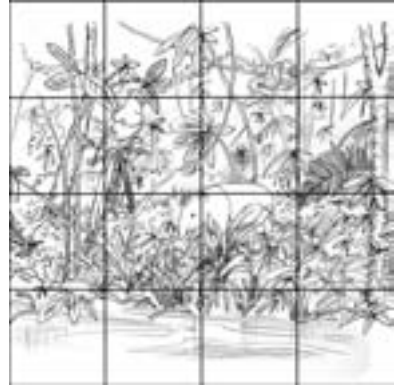


“There are at least 80 different species of monkeys in the rainforest; one is so tiny that it can fit in a teacup.”

ACTIVITY #6

PUZZLE

Cut out the pieces and glue them down to make a rainforest picture.

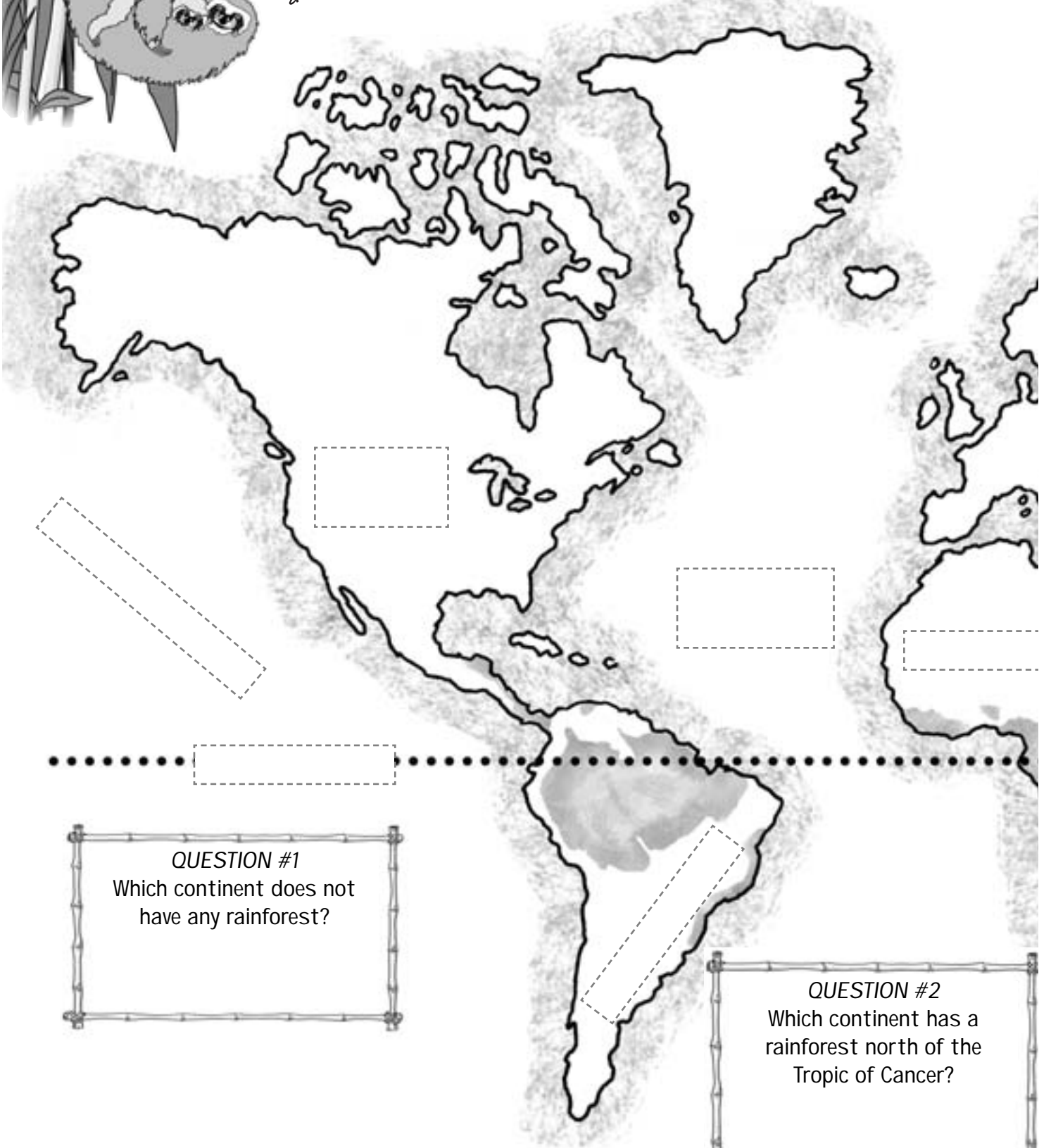




"The rainforests around the world are in a wide band near the equator."

ACTIVITY #7

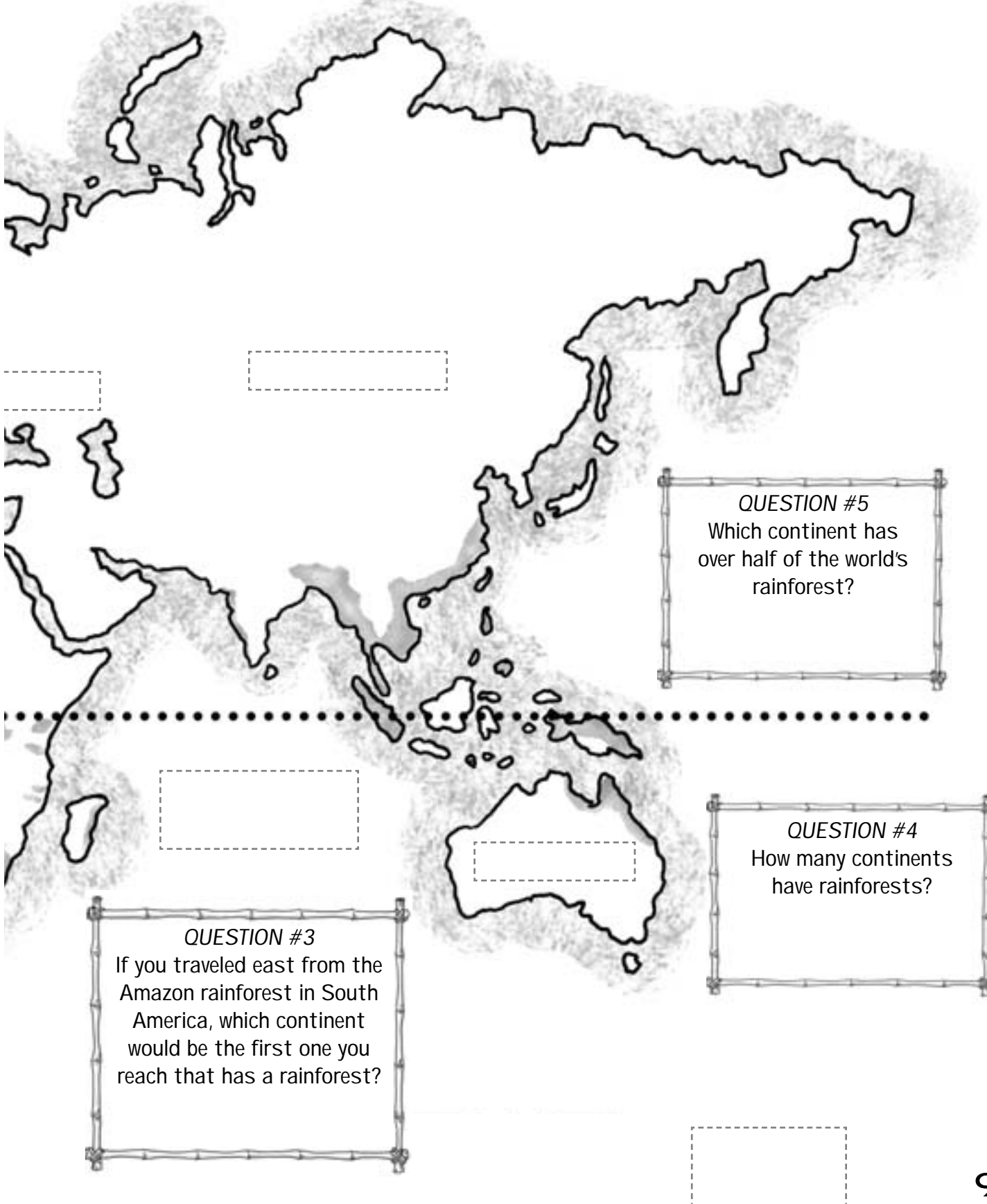
WORLD RAINFOREST MAP



QUESTION #1
Which continent does not have any rainforest?

QUESTION #2
Which continent has a rainforest north of the Tropic of Cancer?

On the map, label the following in the boxes : equator, North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Europe, Australia, Antarctica, Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean and the Arctic Ocean. See where the rainforests are located, then answer the questions below. Use resources at the library or the Internet. State the sources.

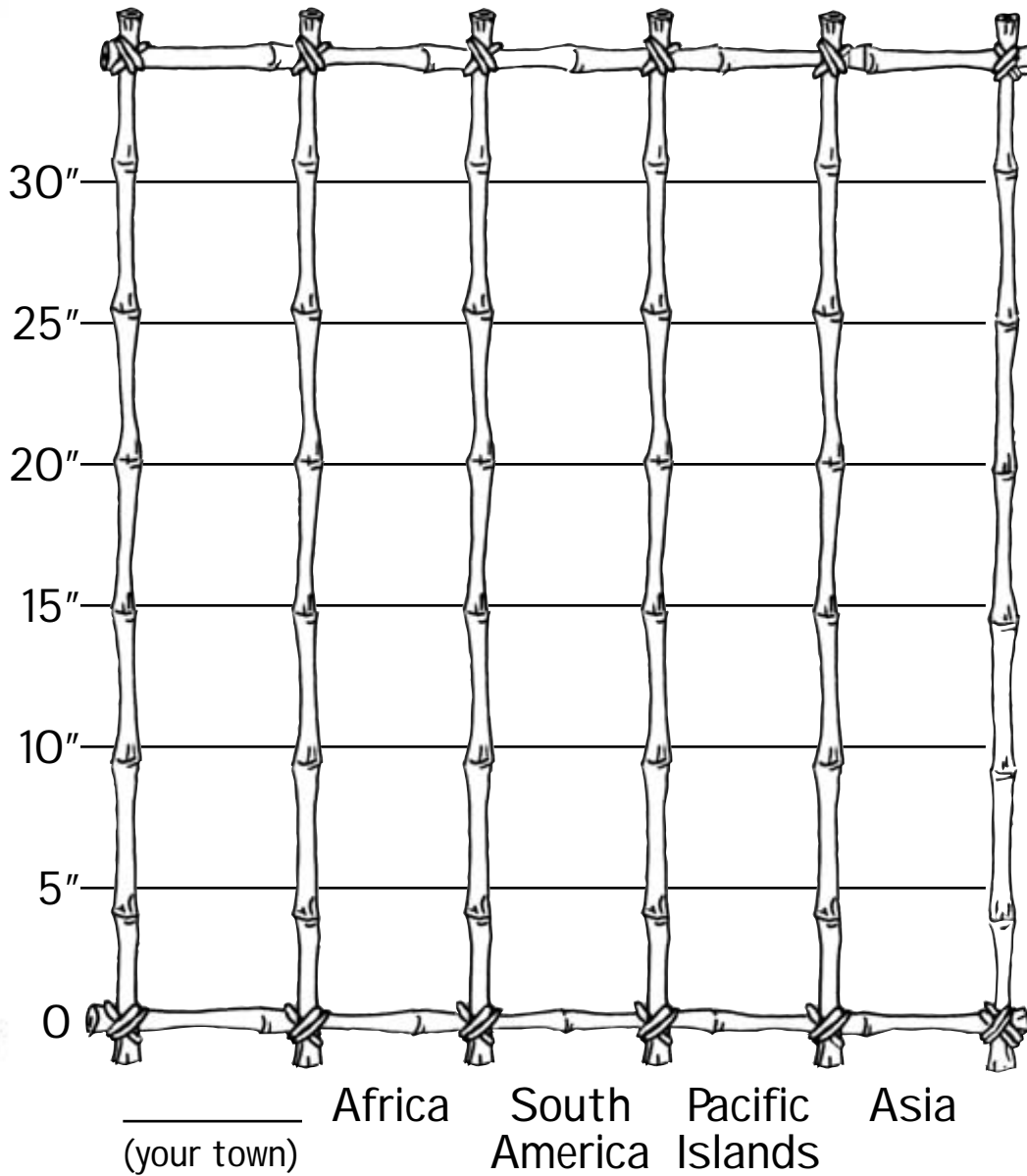


"Poison dart frogs are bright in color to send off a warning to potential predators that they are poisonous."

ACTIVITY #8

RAINFALL GRAPH

Research how much rainfall there is annually in each location (see list on graph below). Complete the graph. Please state the sources.





"Some animals find everything they need to survive in the emergent layer and never leave it."

Research the layers of the rainforest and fill a description for each layer. Remember to include details. Please state the sources.

ACTIVITY #9 RAINFOREST LAYERS

EMERGENT TREES

FOREST FLOOR

UNDERSTORY

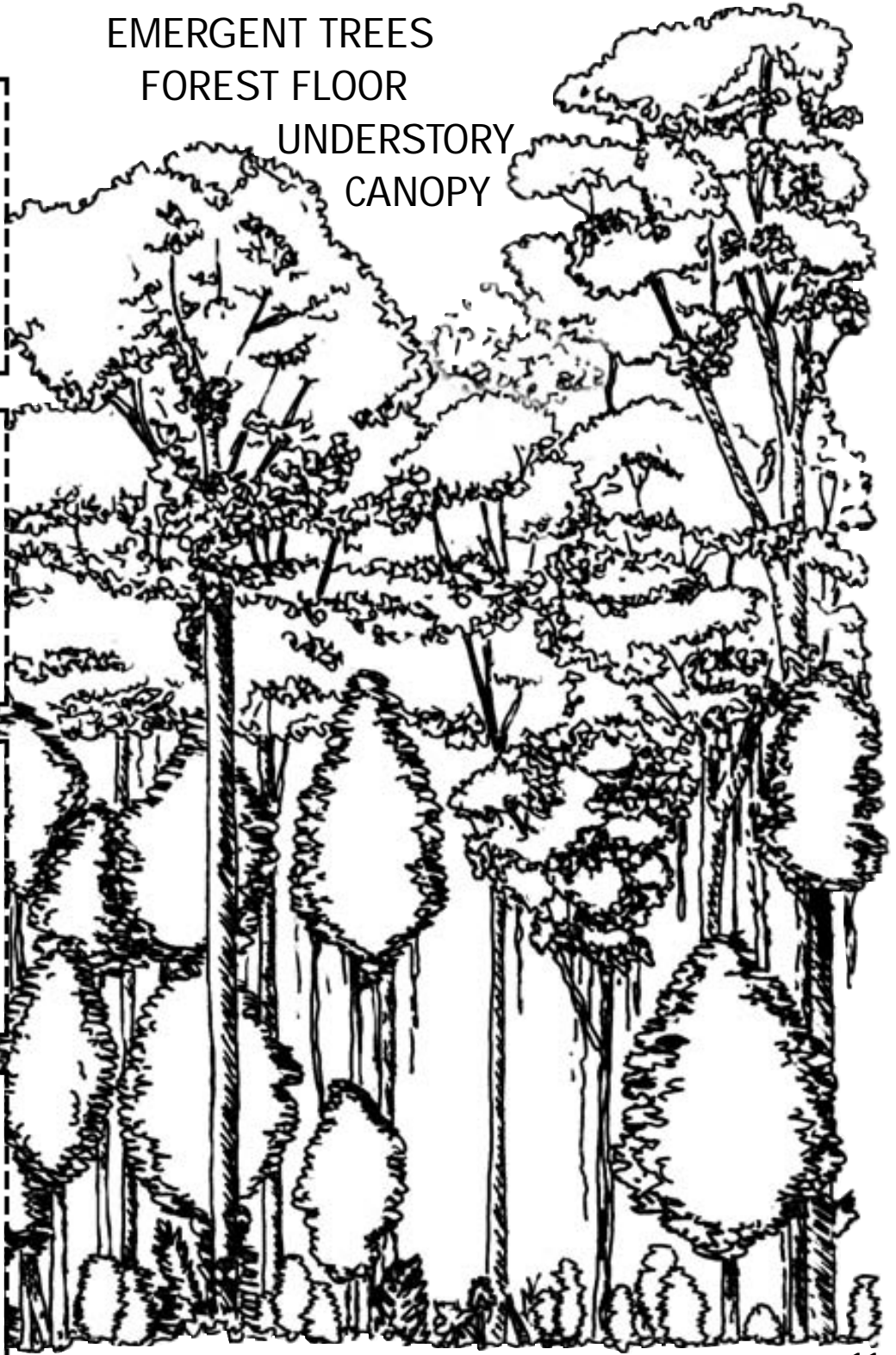
CANOPY

LAYER:

LAYER:

LAYER:

LAYER:





*"People often refer to the rainforest as the 'lungs for the planet.'
Trees and plants take in carbon dioxide and give off oxygen."*

ACTIVITY #11 RAINFOREST CHALLENGE

Rainforests can be found on every continent except Antarctica. They can be found in Central America, South America, Africa, Southern Asia and Australia. Compare the animal families that live in the different rainforests to see if any species can be found in more than one rainforest. Please state the sources.

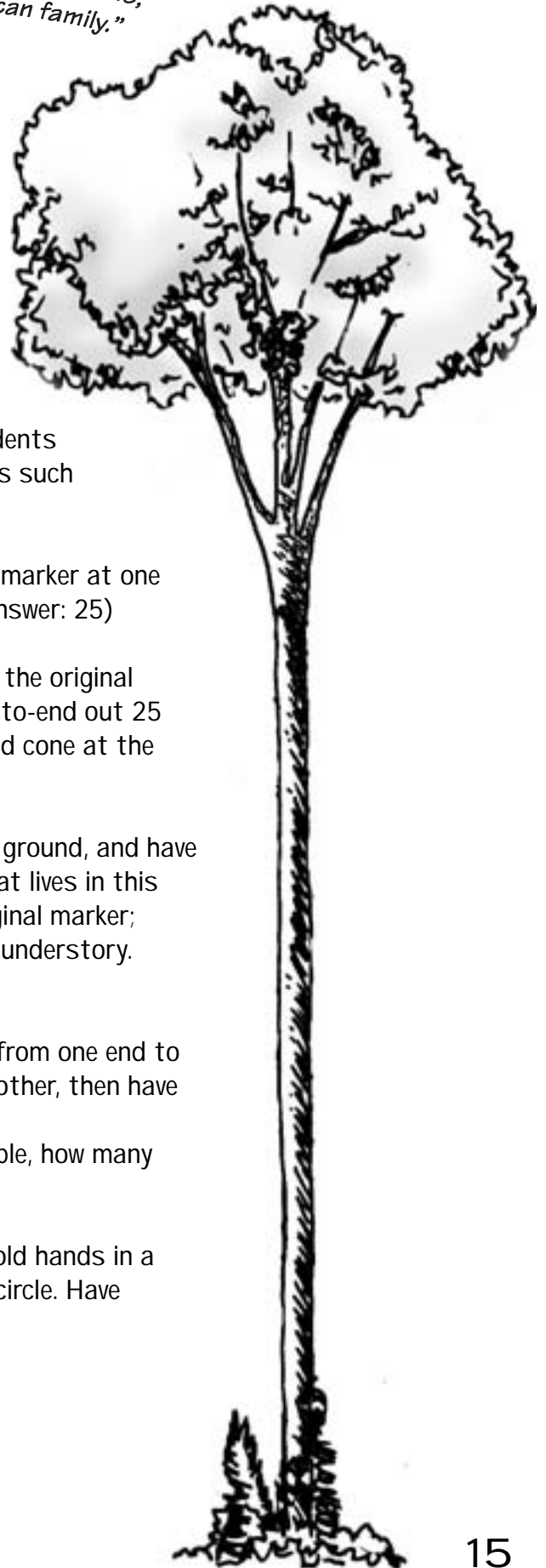
	Central America	Amazon	Africa	South Asia	Australia
Mammals					
Reptiles					
Amphibians					
Birds					
Insects					
Other					



"There are more than 40 different kinds of toucans; the 'Toco' is the largest of the toucan family."

ACTIVITY #13

THE OTTO TREE



Trying to visualize a tree that is 225 feet tall is pretty hard. This activity will make imagining that possible.

Have each student cut a five-foot long string. Then take students to the gym or outside. Bring a tape measure and two markers such as cones or small empty trash cans.

Have students lay the strings end-to-end in a line. Place the marker at one end. Ask students, "How many feet of string do we have?" (answer: 25)

Now, have students mark spot where the string ends, leaving the original marker in its place. Then have them take the five strings end-to-end out 25 more feet. Repeat this seven more times and place the second cone at the new endpoint.

Explain to students that the canopy is about 150 feet above ground, and have students use a tape measure to mark this spot. Discuss what lives in this layer. Then, have two students measure 30 feet from the original marker; explain that this is the understory. Discuss what lives in the understory.

Other fun related activities:

- Have students try to guess how long it would take to walk from one end to the other. Select one student to walk from one end to the other, then have the class count together and see who was the closest.
- Encourage children to discuss it in related terms. For example, how many stories of an office building would that be?

The Otto tree is usually 12 feet in diameter. Have the class hold hands in a circle and estimate that; then, actually measure the formed circle. Have students calculate the circumference of the tree.

"For thousands of years, shamans have passed down important information about the healing medicines of the rainforest to the next generation."

ACTIVITY #15 WORLD JOBS

Discuss how jobs in the rainforest are different than jobs where you live. Fill in the sheet below.

HOW DOES WHERE YOU LIVE AFFECT JOBS?

Your Home	Amazon Rainforest
FATHER	
MOTHER	
SON	
DAUGHTER	
GRANDPARENTS	

If you lived in the rainforest, what job would you want to do?

"Ipecac flowers are used for curing fevers."

ACTIVITY #16

CROSSWORD

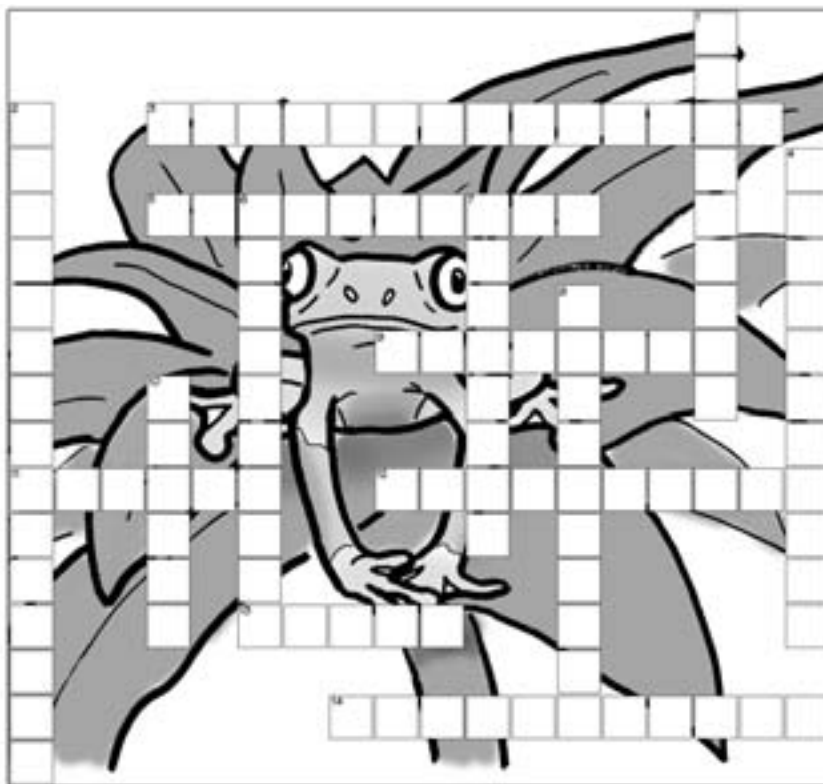
Fill in the crossword puzzle below using the clues.

DOWN

1. An ecological community together with its environment, functioning as a unit.
2. This has beautiful blue wings with black around the edges and will fly above the treetops warming itself in the sun. (2 words)
4. This animal lives high in the rainforest going from tree to tree. If it loses a tail, it grows a new one. (2 words)
6. Originating or living naturally in an area or environment.
7. The tallest trees live in this layer. They can tower as much as 200 feet high.
8. A species present in such small numbers or whose numbers are decreasing so quickly that it is at risk of extinction.
10. This beautiful flower grows up high in trees and uses its long roots to soak up moisture from the air.

ACROSS

3. There are more than 100 kinds of this species. They are bright in color and their skin contains poison. (3 words)
5. A dense evergreen forest occupying a tropical region with an annual rainfall of at least 2.5 meters.
9. Country of northeast South America on the Atlantic Ocean.
11. This brightly colored bird uses its beak to collect fruits and berries.
12. Delicious fruit that grows in bunches can be found on this tree. (2 words)
13. This animal will hang in a tree for hours, wrapping itself around the tree trunk or hanging upside down.
14. This unusual insect hides in flowers and its arms make it look like it is praying. (2 words)



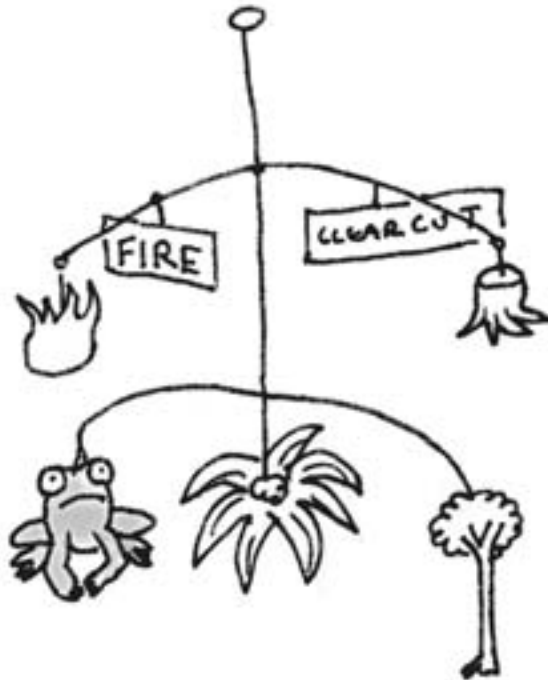
For the crossword puzzle answers, visit the website at www.amazonteam.org.

"In 2007, ACT held a traditional knowledge exchange in Suriname between people, leaders and healers from four countries."

ACTIVITY #17

CREATIVE ESSAY

Read a book of your choice about the rainforest. Create a mobile or story cube highlighting the important facts you learned in the book. Use illustrations and words to express your ideas.




MOBILE

Draw your own pictures or locate some in magazines. Cut and paste them on lightweight cardboard for your mobile or story cube.



STORY CUBE

BOOK: _____




“Many rainforest snakes have green skin that allows them to blend in with the leaves and trees.”

ACTIVITY #18 CREATE A POEM

Write an acrostic poem about the rainforest. Each sentence should begin with the letter on the left.

R
A
I
N
F
O
R
E
S
T



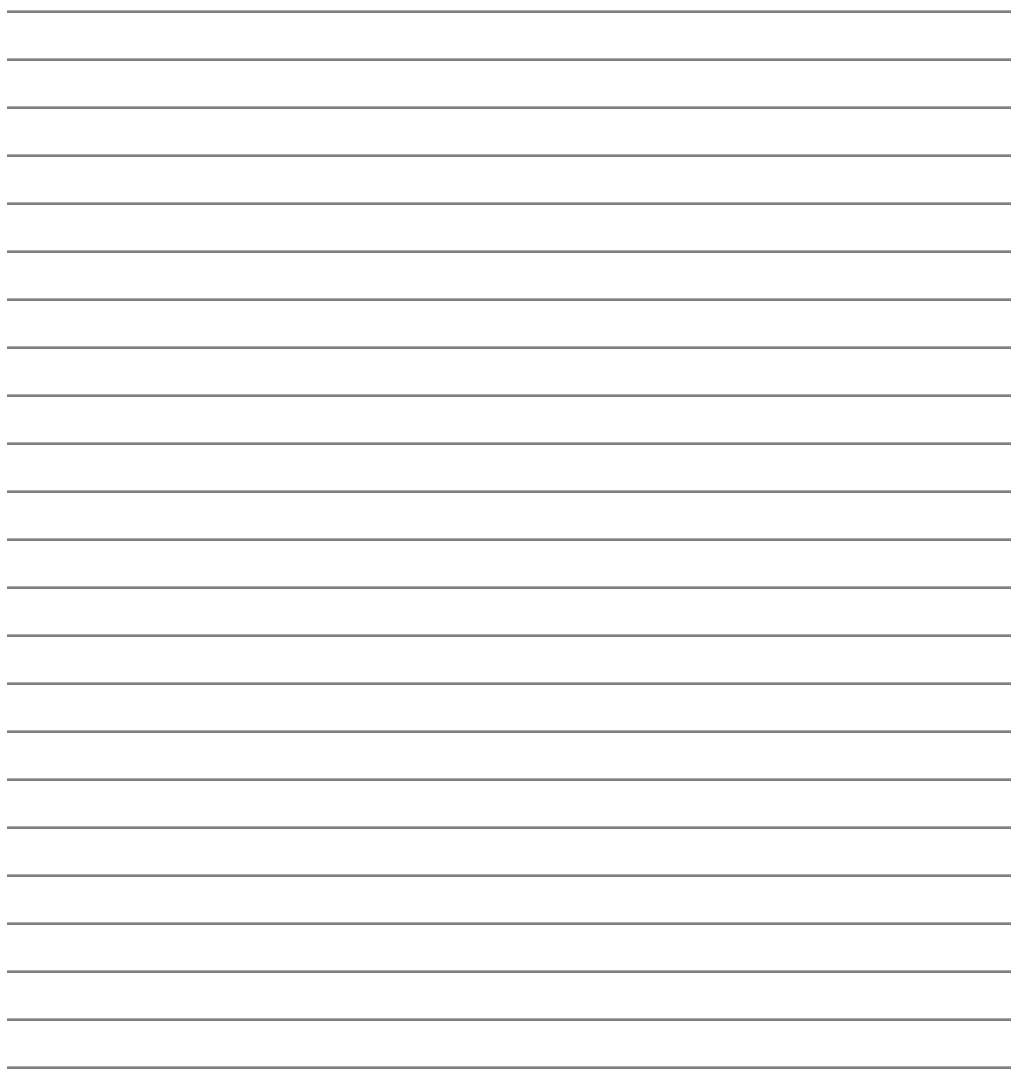


“Female red-eyed tree frogs lay about 50 eggs, and the eggs hatch into tadpoles within a few days.”

ACTIVITY #19

INTO THE FUTURE

Have students break up into small groups. Provide construction paper, markers, scissors and basic art supplies. Have the students discuss what kind of product they would make to help preserve the planet. Have students list out why their product would help the earth and rainforest as well as draw or design a picture or prototype of their product. Students should elect one person to get up in front of the class and discuss their product. Have students vote on which product would be the best.





*"Flying frogs, squirrels and snakes
can be found in the Asian rainforest."*

ACTIVITY #20

Climb to the top of the rainforest by
answering each math problem.

ENL

$1 + 0 = \underline{\quad}$
amount of people it takes
to make a difference!

$622 \div 100 = \underline{\quad}\%$
estimated % of rainforest
covering the Earth today.

$1431 \div 100 = \underline{\quad}\%$
estimated % of rainforest
that once covered the Earth.

$5 \times 4 + 60 = \underline{\quad}$
different species of
monkeys in the rainforest

$200 \div 2 + 37 = \underline{\quad}$
Estimated number of
plants, animals and
insects we are losing
every day.

$(100 \times 10) + 100 = \underline{\quad}$
estimated number of
tributaries flowing into
the Amazon River.

$6000 \div 2 = \underline{\quad}$
number of fruits in all
rainforests.
(Only 200 in use today!)

$20 + 10 + 5 + 5 = \underline{\quad}$
number of different
kinds of toucans.

$3 + 3 + 3 = \underline{\quad}$
number of feet of rain
in the Amazon each year.



START

"For thousands of years, shamans have passed down important information about the healing medicines of the rainforests to the next generation."

ACTIVITY #21

Read the book *The Shaman's Apprentice* to your students. Have students answer question number one before reading the book.



1. What questions might you have before reading *The Shaman's Apprentice*?

2. What changes took place when the people from the outside world came to the Trio village?

POSITIVE

NEGATIVE

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3. Who do you think was the most important character in this book and why?

4. What lessons can be learned from this story?

5. How did this story affect your opinion of the rainforest people?



"It is believed that one hectare (2.47 acres) of rainforest can contain over 750 types of trees and 1500 species of higher plants."

ACTIVITY #23 DESIGN-A-SHIRT

Design a t-shirt that delivers the message of saving the rainforest. Remember to include a catchy saying. Be creative with the art.

