

# TROPICAL RAINFOREST OF THE WORLD

Scavenger Hunt  
GRADES 4-8



**Saint Louis Zoo**  
Animals Always®

# Scavenger Hunt

## TROPICAL RAINFOREST OF THE WORLD

### **Teacher's Guide**

*Updated: Summer 2008*

*APPROXIMATE TIME: 60 Minutes*

#### **Suggestions for teachers:**

1. The activities take you through a large proportion of the zoo. Makes sure your students are familiar with the zoo layout or have a map.
2. Divide your students into groups of five or fewer students with an adult

#### **Suggested Pre-Visit Activities**

1. Review these pages ahead of time with your students so they will have an idea of what they will be doing at the zoo.
2. Be sure that your students are familiar with the concepts of **rainforest**, **endangered species**, and **adaptation**.

#### **Library Resources**

##### **Videos:**

- Bats: Rainforest Allies (Bat Conservation International, 13 min.)
- Biosphere Reserves in Tropical America (UNESCO, 13 min.)
- Bosque Eterno De Los Ninos (Monteverde Conservation League, 15 min.)
- Diversity of Life (National Geographic, 25 min.)
- Exploring the Rainforests Biome (MBG Learning Network, 31 min.)
- Lemurs: Ghosts in the Trees (Beacon Films, 15 min.)
- Orangutans of the Rainforest (Wolfgang Bayer/The Best of Nature, 53 min.)
- Rainforest (National Geographic, 60 min.)
- Rainforest Rap (World Wildlife Fund, 6 min)
- Rescuing the Rainforest (KMOV-TV, 30 min.)
- Search for the Great Apes (National Geographic, 60 min.)
- Totally Tropical Rainforest (National Geographic, 40 min.)
- The Tropical Rainforest (Sierra Club, 30 min.)
- World Populations (Zero Population Growth, 7 min.)
- You Can't Grow Home Again (CTW, 60 min.)

##### **Zoocases:**

- Biodiversity Zoocase
- Rainforest Zoocase

##### **Other Resources:**

- Rainforest Mini Zoocase
- Rainforests Video and accompanying activity book
- Vanishing Rainforest (Teachers guide)

# Scavenger Hunt

## TROPICAL RAINFOREST OF THE WORLD

### ***Answer Key***

Because the animals at the Zoo are living creatures with very special needs, at certain times some of the animals referred to in this scavenger hunt may not be on public display. **Please remind your student to do their best to complete the hunt by carefully observing the animals they find and not to worry about any that are off display.** We update our scavenger hunts on an annual basis during the summer months to be able to provide you with the most accurate information about our animals.

**APPROXIMATE TIME: 75 MINUTES**

**UPDATED: Summer 2008**

1. Humans
2.
  - a. Orangutans: S.E. Asia
  - b. Chimpanzees: Africa
  - c. Gorillas: Africa
3. a. Habitat destruction b. pet trade
4. Habitat Destruction, bush meat, pet trade
5. Trees dropping fruit
6. Eat plants
7. Territorial
8. 43%
9. Birds here in the summer migrate in the winter to the rainforest
10. God of war should be in the sentence, but sentences will vary
11. a and d
12. To hang on the nest near the female
13. Answers will vary, but should reflect their coloration
14. Answers will vary
15. a
16. Answers will vary
17. Long slender fingers, a prehensile tail, elongated limbs, reduced thumbs
18. Can attach itself to a rock and resemble a patch of moss becoming almost invisible.
19. It exhales through its nostrils very loudly
20. To attract a mate and to warn predators
21. d

## Scavenger Hunt

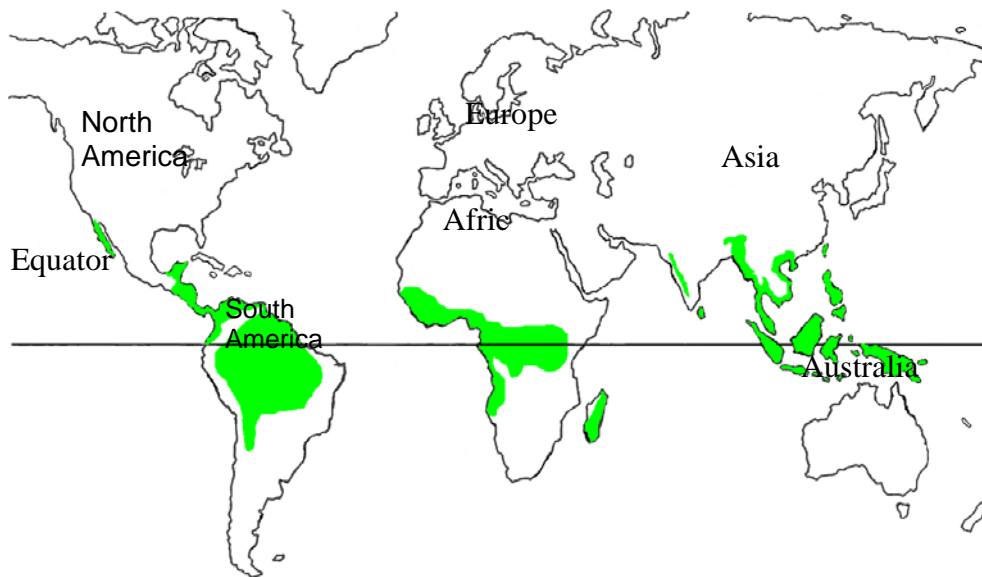
# TROPICAL RAINFOREST OF THE WORLD

## ***Student's Activity Pages***

The tropical rain forests of South and Central America, Africa, Asia, and Pacific islands are the most ancient and complex ecosystems on the earth. Although they cover only 6% of the world's surface, they are home to over half of the world's species. The combination of ample rain and warm temperatures allow both plants and animals to thrive. Since these areas are being deforested at an alarming rate, the plants and animals that inhabit these forests are also threatened. The following questions were designed to help students understand the need to protect the biodiversity of plants and animals existing in these spectacular areas.

**Answers can be discovered by observing the animals and thinking about what you see, or by reading the signs on the animal enclosures.**

### RAINFORESTS OF THE WORLD



## START YOUR HUNT AT THE FRAGILE FOREST OR JUNGLE OF THE APES

Depending on the weather and time of year the primates might be inside or outside. Remember to look at the informational signs near each exhibit to help you answer the questions.

### **Fragile Forest/Jungle Of The Apes**

1. There are several types of primates at the Zoo. One is rapidly destroying the other's habitat. Which one is it? (Hint: they are not in an exhibit.)

2. Name the three primates on exhibit and the continent where they live.

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Orangutans are on the “Endangered Species” list. This means that this species is in danger of becoming extinct in the wild. What are two of the causes?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why are Gorillas and Chimpanzees endangered?

5. Why do Orangutans have to spread out to find food?

6. What do all three primate species sometimes do to try and heal themselves?

7. Orangutans use their cheek pads and throat sacs to make loud calls. Why do they do this?

WALK UP THE HILL AND ENTER THE FRONT OF THE BIRD HOUSE.

**BIRD HOUSE**

As you enter, look for the tropical rainforest exhibit in the center and begin there.

8. What percentage of endangered birds live in tropical rainforests? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How does the destruction of far away tropical rainforests affect the bird population in the St. Louis area?
10. Many ancient cultures used animals as symbols of gods. Find out how the Rhinoceros Hornbill was revered and write a complete sentence explaining what you found out.

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11. The Victoria crowned pigeon is the world's largest pigeon. What do both the males and the females have in common?(Can be more than one answer)
- a. The crest on the head
  - b. a need for meat in their diets
  - c. they can walk backwards
  - d. their blue color
12. Why do baby Turacos have tiny claws on the end of their wings?

EXIT THE BIRD HOUSE THROUGH THE SIDE AND WALK UP THE HILL TOWARD RED ROCKS.

**RED ROCKS**

13. The Okapi was not discovered until 1901 because it lives deep in the tropical rainforest. What adaptations helped it to remain unnoticed for so long?

14. There are several other hoofed mammals that live in the rainforest. Name two of them and the continent on which they live. Check the map to be sure they live in a tropical rainforest

a.

b.

15. Hoofed animals are usually herbivores. However, this one will also catch and eat small birds and rodents.

a. Reeve's muntjac

b. lesser kudu

c. Somali wild ass

d. addax

LEAVE RED ROCKS AND HEAD TO THE PRIMATE HOUSE.

### **PRIMATE HOUSE**

**Again, pay close attention to the maps as you read about the different animals you will see. See how many come from rain forests around the world.**

16. You will see a number of lemurs as you tour the Primate House. They all come from the island of Madagascar and, all except one, are arboreal (that is, they live in the trees). As you view them, draw or sketch each lemur species. Label each drawing and write a brief description about their behavior.

17. Watch the spider monkeys. Name two things that make them especially adapted to the rainforest habitat.

a.

b.

AS YOU LEAVE THE PRIMATE HOUSE, TURN LEFT AND WALK TO THE HERPETARIUM.

## **HERPETARIUM**

18. Tropical Rainforests have very high amounts of rainfall, so there are often areas with standing or running water. The Vietnamese Moss frog lives in such an area. What adaptation of this frog helps it to be successful in this habitat?
19. The Gaboon Viper is one species of snake that makes the tropical rainforest its home. This particular snake lives on the forest floor. What behavioral adaptation does it use to warn its enemies (this is a venomous snake)?
20. The Golden Mantella is brightly colored. How does this frog use this adaptation in its native rainforest habitat?
21. The Surinam Toad has very unusual way of protecting its eggs. What is it?
- a. the female stays nearby after the eggs are laid
  - b. both parents keep watch over the eggs
  - c. the male buries the eggs in the sand
  - d. the eggs are kept on the female's back until they hatch