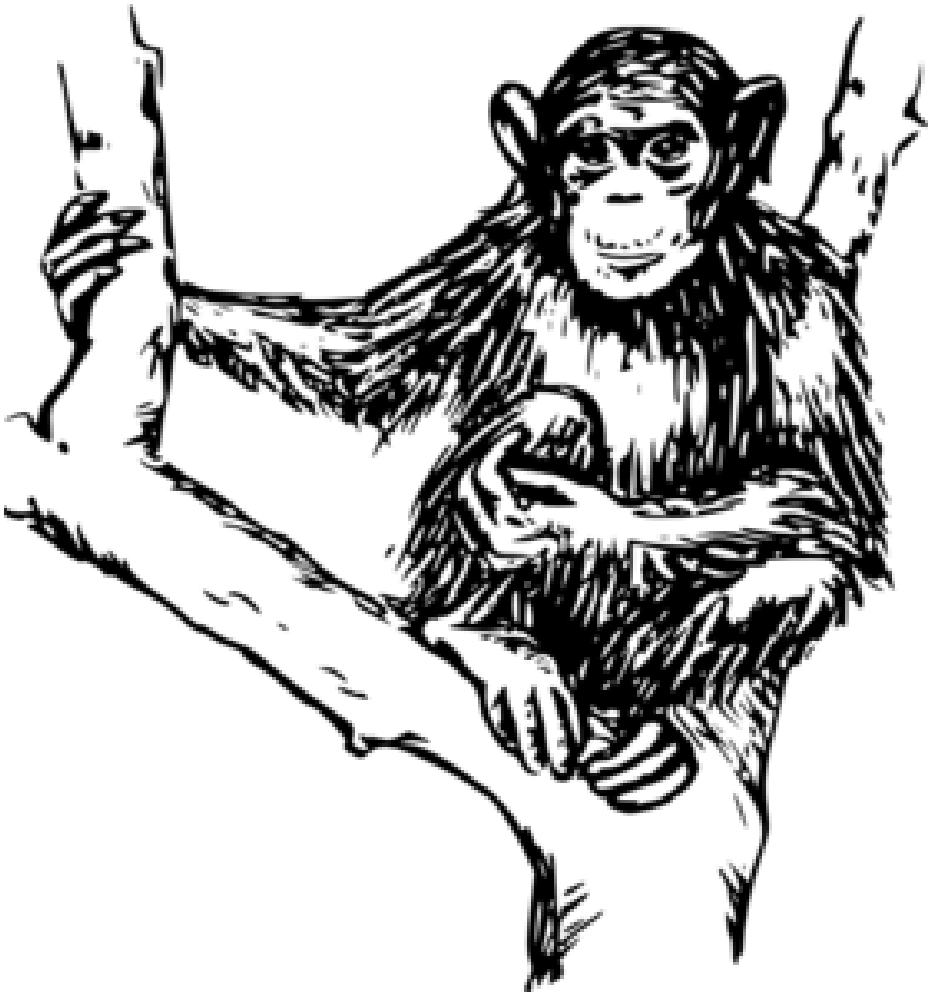
TROPICAL RAINFORESTS OF THE WORLD

Scavenger Hunt

GRADES 4-8



Saint Louis Zoo

Animals Always®

Scavenger Hunt

TROPICAL RAINFORESTS OF THE WORLD

Teacher's Guide

Updated: Summer 2012
APPROXIMATE TIME: 60 - 75 minutes

Suggestions for teachers:

1. These activities will take you through a large portion of the Zoo. Make 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 at least one adult chaperone per group.

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 Niño's (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

Scavenger Hunt

TROPICAL RAINFORESTS 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 students to do their best to complete the hunt by carefully observing the animals they DO 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: 60 - 75 MINUTES
UPDATED: Summer 2012

1. Humans
2. Orangutans, Southeast Asia; Chimpanzees, Africa; Gorillas, Africa
3. Habitat destruction and the pet trade
4. Habitat destruction, bush meat, and pet trade
5. Trees that provide their food do not bear fruit year round and grow far apart
6. Eat certain medicinal plants
7. Territorial calls
8. 1/3
9. Birds that live in St. Louis in the summer migrate to the rainforest in the winter
10. “God of war” should be in the sentence, but answers will vary
11. A and D
12. Claws allow them to cling to twigs near the nest
13. Answers will vary, but should address the coloration of the okapi
14. Answers will vary
15. A: jaguar; B: Panthera onca
16. Answers will vary
17. Long slender fingers, prehensile tail, elongated limbs, reduced thumbs
18. It exhales forcibly and loudly through its nostrils
19. To attract a mate and to warn predators
20. D

Name _____

Scavenger Hunt

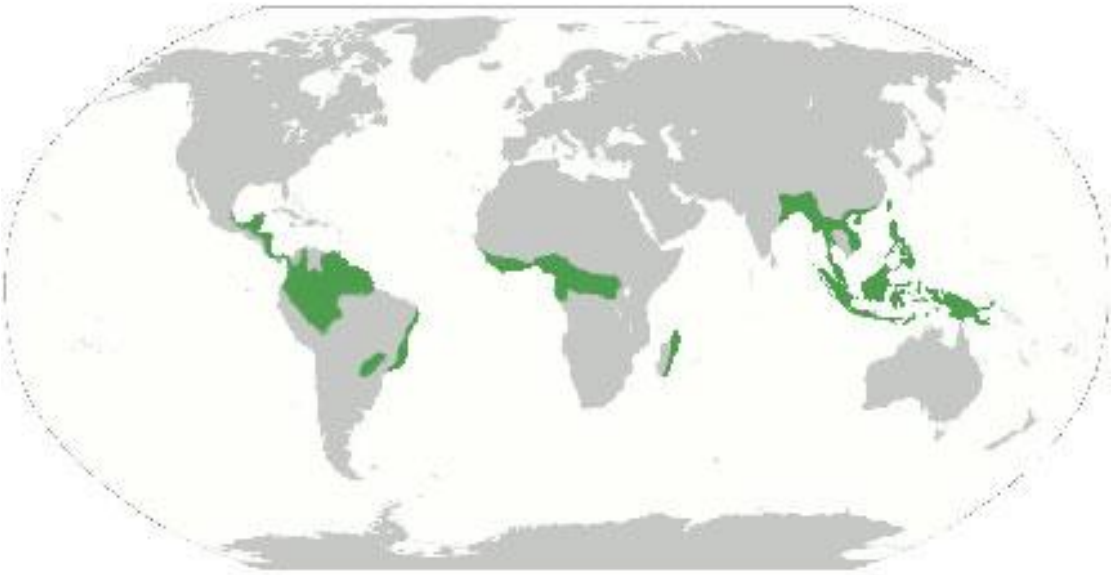
TROPICAL RAINFORESTS OF THE WORLD

Student Activity Pages

The tropical rainforests of South and Central America, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific Islands are the most ancient and complex ecosystems on Earth. Although they cover only 6% of the world's surface, they are home to over half of the worlds 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 the 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 the 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 changing all the others' habitats. Which primate is it? (HINT: They are NOT in an exhibit!)

   _____

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

PRIMATE NAME	CONTINENT

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 for this?

   a. _____

   b. _____

4. Why are gorillas and chimpanzees endangered?

   _____

   _____

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

   _____

   _____

6. What do Chimpanzees 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?

_____

_____

LEAVE FRAGILE FOREST/JUNGLE OF THE APES AND WALK UP HISTORIC HILL TO THE BIRD HOUSE. ENTER THE FRONT OF THE BIRD HOUSE.

Bird House

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

8. What proportion of all birds live in the tropical rainforests? _____

9. How does the destruction of the 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 looked at as a god and write a complete sentence explain what you found out.

_____

_____

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 DOOR. CONTINUE TO WALK UP HISTORIC HILL TOWARDS 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 tropical rainforest. Name two of them and the continent on which they live. Check the map on the sign to be sure they live in a tropical rainforest.

ANIMAL NAME	CONTINENT

15. In Big Cat Country, there is one cat that lives in the rainforest. What are its common and scientific names?
    a. Common Name: _____

    b. Scientific Name: _____

LEAVE RED ROCKS AND GO DOWN THE OTHER SIDE OF HISTORIC HILL 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 rainforests 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 trees). As you view them, draw or sketch at least 4 lemur species. Label each drawing and write a brief description about their behavior.

Species: _____

Behavior description: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Species: _____

Behavior description: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Species: _____

Behavior description: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Species: _____

Behavior description: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Any other interesting observations:

_____

_____

_____

17. Watch the black-handed spider monkeys. Name two things that make them especially adapted for their rainforest habitat.

    a. _____

    b. _____

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

Herpetarium

18. 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 this venomous snake use to warn its enemies that it is dangerous?

    _____

    _____

19. The Panamanian Golden frog is brightly colored. How does this frog use this adaptation in its native rainforest habitat?

    _____

    _____

20. The Komodo Dragon can smell dead animals from how many miles away?
    a. ½ mile
    b. 1 mile
    c. 3 miles
    d. 5 miles