

## Rainforests Topic Overview

### Art

Henri Rousseau was a French painter famous for his pictures of dense jungles filled with plants and animals.

Look at the selection of pictures, choose your favourite and try to recreate your own version using colouring pencils. Look carefully at the shapes of the leaves, trees and animals and try to copy them carefully. (You can do as many of these as you like!) I would love to see these in our online gallery or later on back at school.

If you are feeling creative, you could also try creating the same picture using paint or collage.

### Computing

Use the internet to research the names of some trees which grow in the Amazon rainforest. When you have found between 5 and 8 different species, find out how tall they grow. Then, if you can, use Excel to create a bar chart showing the different heights. If you cannot remember how to use Excel, you could do a Google search for a "How to ..." guide. If you save your Excel document, you could email it to me so that I can have a look!

### Design and Technology

This task should be done after you have done quite a bit of learning about the rainforest. If we were at school, we would be doing it towards the end of the term. Maybe we will all be able to do it together or maybe not ....

It might be a tricky task, but ....

If you have a cardboard box, maybe a shoe box or similar, and some art and craft materials, try to make a 3D model of a rainforest. You could paint or colour the box green, make lots of pop up trees and bushes, create some vines, create a brown forest floor, maybe add a stream or waterfall, cut out some pictures of rainforest animals and add them to your model. I would love to see photos of these on our website gallery or email them to me!

### Geography

1. Read the information on this web page and try to remember the key facts.

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/rainforest.html>

2. Print off the world map and label the seven continents and five oceans. Mark on the Equator, the tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn and a compass. Find out where there are tropical rainforests and mark these on your map by colouring those areas in green.
3. Look at the Rainforest Layers Power point and the Rainforest layers PDF. Find out the names of the 4 layers of the rainforest and the names of some plants that grow in each layer. On a large piece of paper, make a poster with a drawing showing the different layers. Add a text box for each layer to explain a little bit about it.
4. Find out about some of the animals that live in each of the layers of the rainforest. Choose one from each layer and either make a folded booklet or a set of posters for each animal to include a picture and a fact file – name of animal, animal class (mammal, reptile, bird etc.), habitat (where it lives), diet (what it eats) and any other interesting facts.

## PSHE

This term we should be learning about 'Healthy Relationships'. Lots of our PSHE work is done through circle time discussion, role play and games which you will not be able to do at home. But I have saved or created links to some stories and discussion questions that you could read and talk about together at home.

## Music

Watch the You Tube video at the link below. Try to learn the words to the song! It's about the importance of saving the rainforest.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKumZJPClec>

You could also try listening to this lovely relaxing rainforest music whilst you do your work!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2GD89rmckY>

## RE

The topic this term is Buddhism.

Read the story of Buddha on the Power point and talk about what it means with an adult. Maybe you could write your own version of the story or draw a picture of Buddha before and after enlightenment. Perhaps you could try meditating like Buddha. Think about a time when you have been unhappy and what you could do to make yourself happy again, following Buddha's advice.

## Science

The topic for this term is all about plants.

If you can, try planting some seeds and watching them grow. Look after some plants by watering and nurturing them. This will give you lots of practical experience of different types of plants, how they grow and what they need to stay healthy.

Other activities we would have done in class include:

1. Make some careful observational drawings of different types of plant, for example a daffodil, a cactus, a tomato plant and a dandelion. If you can, unearth them so that you can see what they look like underground. Label each part of the plant – leaf, stem, bud, flower, petal, root, bulb – and find out what each part is used for.
2. Carry out some investigations to find out how important water and light are to plants. If you can, get two bedding plants of the same type and size and place them side by side. Water one of them each day and do not water the other one. Predict what you think will happen. What happens to each of them? Draw a picture after a week or so to show what happens to each and explain what you have learned.  
You could do a similar experiment to find out how important light is to plants. Again, get two bedding plants of the same type and size. Place one on a bright windowsill and one in a dark cupboard. Water both plants each day. Predict what you think will happen. What happens to each of them? After a week or so record the result by drawing and explaining.
3. Use a book or watch a video clip online to show how insects pollinate flowers and help seeds to grow. Draw a picture of a bee pollinating a flower – try to label your picture with the labels stamen, petals, stigma, pollen and nectar.
4. Use books or the internet to find out about the life cycle of a flowering plant. Make a poster or a wheel to show each stage of the life cycle – a seed, a seedling, a mature full grown plant.

5. Find out the different ways that seeds are dispersed by looking at the video on the link below.

[http://www2.bgfl.org/bgfl2/custom/resources\\_ftp/client\\_ftp/ks2/science/plants\\_pt2/dispersal.htm](http://www2.bgfl.org/bgfl2/custom/resources_ftp/client_ftp/ks2/science/plants_pt2/dispersal.htm)

Make a mini booklet or a poster to show the different ways that seeds are dispersed – by wind, by being eaten, by explosion, by water, by catching on animal's fur.

## PE

Try to keep active whatever the weather!

I have been doing Joe Wicks daily workout and I know that some of you have also been doing so too.

But if you prefer, just get outside in the garden and have fun!

In the summer, we usually do athletics at school. You could have a go at sprinting. How fast can you run a short distance like 50 or 100 metres? Get someone to time you. Have a go at long distance running. How many circuits of your garden can you do? You could even try some long jumping – how far can you jump? Use your measuring skills to find out!

## Checklist of documents on website to help

Art – folder of Rousseau pictures

Geography – world map, power point, PDF

PSHE – Do we take the risk? How can we solve this problem? The Story of Zeb, Zeb activity sheet, Harold's Day of Secrets and Surprises, Safe secret or unsafe secret, Dan's Dare

RE – Story of Buddha

Science – seed pollination poster, pictures of seed dispersal