



Section 2 - Listening

Unit 1. Journeying through Forests

Listen to Audio What is the Taiga Forest Science for Kids.mp3 talking about Taiga Forest. Then, fill in the gaps. See the Word Box

Taiga Forest

- The Taiga Forest Is a _____ that can be found in the northern parts of the world.
- The climate in the Taiga Forest is _____ and _____.
- However, _____ can have a negative impact on the animals and plants that call the forest home.
- The Taiga Forest Is also an important source of _____ and helps to regulate the Earth's climate by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- The Taiga Forest Is an Important habitat for _____, such as the Siberian crane and the tundra swan.



Word Box

- Cold
- Oxygen
- Snowy
- Biome
- Deforestation
- Migratory birds



Section 2 - Reading

Unit 2. Preserving Ecosystems

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

Rain Forest

Tropical rainforest, often called the "lungs of the planet" because of its teeming life. Warm temperatures and abundant rainfall near the equator create the perfect environment for this incredible biodiversity.

The rainforest is a symphony of life, with distinct layers. The dense canopy, formed by broad-leaved giants, filters sunlight and creates a humid world below. Here, epiphytes (plants that grow on others) cling to branches, while vines snake through the undergrowth. Shrubs and smaller trees fight for a share of the filtered sunlight. The damp forest floor is a haven for insects, fungi, and decomposers. Vibrant birds with dazzling plumage flit through the branches, while mammals like monkeys, jaguars, and sloths navigate the dense foliage. Countless insects, amphibians, and reptiles fill every niche, creating a symphony of sounds and colors.

But these rainforests are crucial for more than just their beauty. They're a biodiversity powerhouse, housing over half the world's plant and animal species. Protecting them safeguards this irreplaceable variety of life. Rainforests also act as giant carbon sinks, absorbing vast amounts of carbon dioxide, a gas that contributes to climate change. Additionally, their dense foliage helps regulate rainfall patterns and prevents soil erosion, ensuring clean water supplies for everyone downstream.

Unfortunately, rainforests face threats like deforestation from logging, agriculture, and mining. This habitat loss disrupts the delicate balance of the ecosystem and threatens countless species. Climate change, with rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns, is another danger.

There's still hope, though! Implementing sustainable forestry practices and promoting alternatives to deforestation are crucial. Establishing and managing protected areas safeguards rainforest ecosystems. By educating the public about the importance of rainforests, we can garner support for conservation efforts and ensure this vital ecosystem thrives for generations to come.



Section 2 - Reading

Unit 2. Preserving Ecosystems

- Tropical rainforests are primarily found in...
 - a) Polar regions
 - b) Deserts
 - c) Regions near the equator
 - d) Mountain ranges

- The dense canopy layer in a rainforest is formed by...
 - a) Short grasses and wildflowers
 - b) Broad-leaved, towering trees
 - c) Ferns and mosses
 - d) Cacti and succulents

- Which of the following animals would you NOT likely find in a tropical rainforest?
 - a) Jaguar
 - b) Penguin
 - c) Monkey
 - d) Parrot

- Why is biodiversity important in a rainforest ecosystem?
 - a) It provides more resources for humans.
 - b) It creates a more aesthetically pleasing environment.
 - c) It ensures a healthy balance between different species.
 - d) It makes the rainforest more interesting for tourists.

- How do rainforests help regulate climate?
 - a) By reflecting sunlight back into space
 - b) By absorbing carbon dioxide
 - c) By creating more clouds
 - d) All of the above

- What is one of the biggest threats to tropical rainforests?
 - a) Introduction of new plant species
 - b) Sustainable forestry practices
 - c) Deforestation
 - d) Increased rainfall



Section 2 - Reading

Unit 2. Preserving Ecosystems

- Why is protecting rainforests important for the water cycle?
 - a) Rainforests use up a lot of water.
 - b) They help regulate rainfall patterns.
 - c) They prevent saltwater intrusion.
 - d) They create more sources of drinking water.

- What is the main message of this text?
 - a) Tropical rainforests are not important and can be cleared for development.
 - b) Tropical rainforests are beautiful places to visit, but their future is not threatened.
 - c) Tropical rainforests are vital ecosystems facing threats, but we can work together to



Section 2 - Listening

Unit 3. Celebrating Native Flora

Listen to Audio [Titan Arum.mp3](#). Listen to them talking about native flora that they observe. Then, answer the questions.



Questions:

1. What's special about the Titan Arum, and why might some people not like it?

2. How tall can the Titan Arum's stem grow, and why is it considered big and impressive?

3. Where does the Titan Arum come from, and why is it famous for being one of the world's largest flowers?

4. Can you name some plants related to the Titan Arum mentioned in the audio?

5. Where can you find Titan Arum plants growing, according to the audio?
