

Rainforest plants -reading comprehension

Rainforest plants



Did you know there are more different types of plants in tropical rainforests than in the rest of the world put together? A typical 10 km square area contains 1,500 types of flowering plants and 750 types of tree. Everything grows quickly because it rains every day and it's very hot. The kapok tree is one of the tallest trees in the rainforest. It grows up to 70 m high and provides food and a home for many rainforest animals including bats, monkeys and birds such as toucans. The largest flower in the Indonesian rainforest is a *Rafflesia*. This flower can grow to one metre across. Unfortunately, it's got a horrible smell! The smell attracts insects and this is good for the rainforest.

Scientists often discover new plants. They also discover new animals. In 2011, some scientists were exploring an area in the rainforest in Papua New Guinea when they discovered a new species of frog. The frog was only about 8.6 mm long. It's the smallest known frog in the world.

Rainforests are also important for people. Fruit such as pineapples, bananas and coconuts came from the rainforests originally. There are also many different types of spices. But it isn't only food that comes from the rainforest. We use rainforest plants to make paint, soap, shampoo, medicine and many other everyday items. We need the rainforest. Unfortunately, some large companies want to develop the forests for farming. They build roads and cut down trees. This destroys important plant and animal habitats and some of the most important natural places we've got in the world today.



Glossary

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smell	za
spice	pr
species	ga
habitat	śn

Zdecyduj na podstawie tekstu czy podane zdania są prawdziwe T czy fałszywe F. Postaraj się odnaleźć właściwe zdanie w tekście i przeczytaj go na głos.

1. In a rainforest, there are 1,500 trees in every 10 km square area.
2. Everything in the rainforest grows slowly .
3. There's lots of rain all year round.
4. The kapok tree grows to about 17 m high.
5. The Rafflesia flower hasn't got a nice smell.
6. Scientist found a new species of lizard in Papua New Guinea.
7. There aren't any spices in the rainforest.
8. We use rainforest plant to make soap.
9. Some people cut down the trees so they can use the land for farming.