

## **LESSON 1: WHAT ANIMALS LIVE IN THE RAINFOREST?**

### **Lesson plan overview**

In this lesson, students will explore the rainforest by learning about key animals and the four rainforest layers: emergent, canopy, understory, and forest floor. Through fun and interactive activities, students will identify where animals like the jaguar, poison dart frog, Scarlet Macaw, anaconda, and sloth live—and begin to understand how different habitats support different species. The lesson encourages curiosity and introduces the rainforest as a vibrant, biodiverse ecosystem.

### **Educational materials**

- **Videos:** Meet the rainforest animals (tree frog, anaconda, jaguar, macaw)
- **Worksheet:** Animal matching game! Match animals you just met to their descriptions and rainforest layers (emergent, canopy, understory, floor)
- **Quiz:** Picture-based quiz identifying animals and rainforest layers
- **Word search:** Find rainforest words
- **Coloring pages:** Scarlet Macaw and red-eyed tree frog
- **Math tie-in:** Counting animal legs, wings, and colors
- **Art tie-in:** Create a rainforest mural for your classroom!
- **Classroom discussion questions:**
  - What animal did you like best and why?
  - What other animals live in the rainforest?

# WORKSHEET: Animal Matching!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Let's explore some amazing rainforest animals! Use what you learned from the videos to complete the matching games and questions below.

## **Animal matching game!**

Draw a line to match each animal to its description and the layer of the rainforest where it lives.



JAGUAR



RED-EYED TREE FROG.



SLOTH



ANACONDA



SCARLET MACAW

### **ANIMAL**

Moves very slowly and hangs from branches

Hunts quietly and walks on the ground

Has sticky toes and sleeps on leaves

Has bright feathers and flies above the trees

Swims in rivers and waits for prey

### **CHARACTERISTICS**

Forest floor

Canopy

Emergent layer

### **RAINFOREST LAYER**

## QUIZ: Where Do I Live?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

After meeting our rainforest animals, answer the following questions about each animal. Circle your answers.

**True or false: Jaguars live on the rainforest floor.**

TRUE            OR            FALSE

**Which animal has bright feathers and can fly?**

- A. Jaguar
- B. Sloth
- C. Scarlet Macaw
- D. Red-eyed tree frog
- E. Anaconda

**Which animal hangs upside down and moves slowly?**

- A. Jaguar
- B. Sloth
- C. Scarlet Macaw
- D. Red-eyed tree frog
- E. Anaconda

**Draw a line to match each of these animals to where it lives in the rainforest layers.**

- Jaguar
- Scarlet Macaw
- Sloth

- |               |
|---------------|
| A. EMERGENT   |
| B. CANOPY     |
| C. UNDERSTORY |
| D. FLOOR      |

## Word Search!

Find these rainforest words in the puzzle below:

FROG  
TREE  
RAIN  
SLOTH  
JUNGLE  
SNAKE  
BIRD  
CAT  
PLANTS

S F R O G C A T N  
N L A I R B I R D  
A P L A N T S S O  
K E J U N G L E T  
E T R E E X O H H  
L O T S A R I N E  
O L S L O T H Q M  
P I R D S B E M S  
W A I N A S E D K



## MATH TIE-IN



Count how many legs, wings, and colors I have!

|                                                                                     | LEGS  | WINGS | COLORS |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|
|    | _____ | _____ | _____  |
|   | _____ | _____ | _____  |
|  | _____ | _____ | _____  |
|  | _____ | _____ | _____  |