

A Rainforest Rendezvous Maps, Mural, & Mini Museum

Book List

Preschool-First Grade

Aloian, Molly. A Rainforest Habitat (Introducing Habitats). New York: Crabtree, 2006. Detailed, informative, and easy to read, this book is sure to delight young science readers.

Aloian, Molly. Rainforest Food Chains. New York: Crabtree, 2006. Children can learn a lot about the rainforest through this great informational book.

Cherry, Lynne. The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest. Mooloolaba, Australia: Sandpiper, 2000. A man goes into the rain forest one day to chop down a kapok tree. He grows tired and falls asleep. As he sleeps, all the animals of the forest come to plead with him to spare his tree. When he wakes up, he's astonished to see all the lovely animals. He leaves the tree, and leaves the forest as it is. This is a beautiful picture book.

Berkes, Marianne. Over in the Jungle: A Rainforest Rhyme. Nevada City: Dawn Publications, 2007. This is an innovation of the song, "Over in the Meadow." The author describes the animals of the rainforest, the different layers, and how important it is to the world. It is illustrated with clay, and then photographed.

Brett, Jan. The Umbrella. Kirkwood, NY: Putnam, 2004. A young boy is disappointed when he doesn't see any animals in the rainforest. He drops his leafy umbrella, and climbs a tree to search further. While he's in the tree, the animals gather under his umbrella, arguing over the space. Beautiful illustrations.

Castaldo, Nancy F. Rainforests: An Activity Guide for Ages 6-9. Chicago: Chicago Review Press, 2003. The book takes children through the layers of the rainforests, and to various rainforests around the world. It contains activities and projects including crafts and recipes.

Gibbons, Gail. Nature's Green Umbrella (Mulberry books). New York: HarperCollins, 1997. Beautiful, full color, watercolor images bring students into the glory of the tropical rainforest. Fifty different plants and animals are presented.

Mitchell, Susan K. and McClennan, Connie. The Rainforest Grew All Around. Mount Pleasant, SC: Sylvan Dell, 2007. An adaptation of the song, "The Grass Grew All Around," this lovely picture book is an excellent tool to introduce children to the rainforest.

Silver, Donald. Tropical Rain Forest. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1998. Beautiful drawings, step by step directions, experiments, and activities will help children connect with life in the tropical rainforests.

Grades 4-5

Albert, Toni. The Remarkable Rainforest: An Active-Learning Book for Kids, New Edition. Mechanicsburg, PA: Trickle Creek Books, 2003. This book, which includes the author's journal of her rainforest visit, brings children into the rainforest, educating them about the plants and animals, its importance, and the degradation of the ecosystem.

Marent, Thomas. Rainforest. New York, DK Publishing, 2010. Mr. Marent has spent his life traveling and photographing the rainforests of the world. The plants and animals are presented in their natural element—a little peek into what most of us will never see in person.

Simon, Seymour. Tropical Rainforests. New York: HarperCollins, 2010. Large photographs of this amazing biome, along with informative text, invite students into the layers of the world's tropical rainforests.