

DIFFERENT TYPES OF FOREST

Why are forests important?

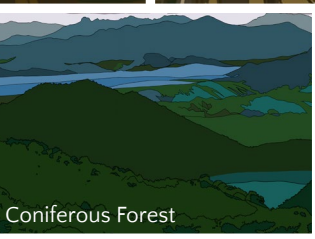
What threats do each sort of forest habitat has?

Mangroves



Conifers are trees that grow cones and have thin, needle-like or scaly spikes for leaves, which is where their seeds are stored. Conifer leaves stay green all year round.

Coniferous forests have short summers and long winters, so some birds migrate south to be warmer, other animals hibernate, which means they sleep through the cold winter.



Coniferous Forest

Reduction in natural habitat affects many threatened species.



Orang-utan



Epiphyte



Golden Toad



Aye Aye



Socorro Dove



Sumatran Rhino



Alagoas Curassow

Cloud forest is found between the tropics, but at a much higher elevation than the typical lowland tropical rainforest. It can get very cold at night here. Lots of the animals living here have thick fur to keep them warm. Trees in the cloud forest often have lots of moss or other special epiphytes growing in them. Epiphytes are plants that grow on other plants! They do not need soil to grow, they can absorb moisture from the clouds.

Rainforests experience high levels of rainfall, receiving between 250 and 450 centimetres of rain per year. This is very high compared to around 90 cm in the UK! Most of the world's rainforests are found in the tropics, and tropical rainforests are thought to contain more than 50 per cent of the world's biodiversity.

Deciduous trees have flat leaves that change colours in the autumn, fall off in the winter, and grow back in the spring; oak trees and maple trees are deciduous.

Unlike coniferous forests, the leaves die and fall to the ground so animals cannot use the trees for shelter. That is why it is important for animals need to store up enough food for the winter, or hibernate.

What can you do to protect forests and its inhabitants?

World Land Trust works across the world to save forests from these threats. Protected forever and managed by local communities.

World Land Trust's project in the Philippines gave protection to 17 mangrove species around the island of Danjagan. Therefore, the island stays protected from storms, and provides a stable habitat for fish and other wildlife.



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Threats to forests –

- Deforestation
 - Removal of mangroves affect marine life as juvenile sharks and fish which use them for security and safety
- Biofuels
- Logging
- Dams
- Developments
- Mining
- Pollution

Key Stage 1

- Encourage healthy competition and chart how far each student has biked/walked or how many times each has not used a car to get to school over a week, month or term.
 - Give a mascot to the new champion regularly.
- Select stories to read in class about different animals and life in forest. Create props and headpieces and act out different scenes from stories.
 - Use recycled materials to create different rainforests – cardboard rolls, paint, add real leaves, add cut out animals to the scene.
 - Walk around school grounds to collect leaf samples and discuss what sort of trees the leaves came from.
 - Select leaves of different colours to create a forest scene.
- Organise a natural scavenger hunt and search for flowers, twigs and leaves. Take note of the different textures and smells.
 - Organise a camp out and recreate the forest.

Key Stage 2

- Create habitats and immerse students into the sounds and smells to enable them to answer, “Why do you think each species is suited to that forest? “
 - Consider grouping other species together and incorporate other topics such as producer/consumer, predator/prey.
 - Students to research their favourite sort of forests and give a presentation/poster/postcard.
 - Match statements about the forest to the correct type.
- Question and answer poems to animals, trees, forest as a whole, to those who destroy in environment and indigenous peoples.
 - Preposition poems – set the scene by describing the environment through the scenes, what is under foot and above.
- Write poems for different types of forest. Listen to sound tracks or watch videos, and create string poems with musical accompaniment.
 - Useful resources include Running Wild by Michael Morpurgo, Manatee Baby by Nicola Davies and The Explorer by Katherine Rundell.

Use in conjunction with *Rainforests, Deforestation and Human Impact*.