

The Rainforest

Geography

Year 3/4

Lesson 5 of 5

Learning Objective		Resources
To explore why the rainforest is under threat and the measures taken to protect it.		Slides Worksheet 5A/5B/5C/5D Books, access to internet, etc. Information Sheet (FSD? activity only)
Teaching Input		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain that more than half of the world's plant and animal species live in rainforests but that rainforests are under threat. Rainforests used to cover around 14% of the Earth's surface but now they only cover around 6%. Over half the world's rainforests have been lost. Can you think of any reasons for this? Children to think, pair, share their ideas. Go through the information on the slides giving some of the ways in which the rainforest is under threat. What effect do you think the deforestation of the rainforests have on the world? Children to think, pair, share their ideas. Explain that deforestation threatens animals, has implications for the environment, and puts the lives of people who live in the rainforest at risk. So what can we do to protect the rainforest? Invite children to share their ideas and then go through the suggestions on the slides. 		
Main Activity		
<u>Lower ability:</u> Give children some time to research the ways in which the rainforest is under threat and what we can do to protect it using books, the internet, etc. Children to then create a poster to show why protecting the rainforest is important on worksheet 5A. This can be enlarged to A3 size if appropriate.	<u>Middle ability:</u> Give children some time to research the ways in which the rainforest is under threat and what we can do to protect it using books, the internet, etc. On worksheet 5B, children to record ways in which the rainforest is under threat and ways in which it can be protected.	<u>Higher ability:</u> Give children some time to research the ways in which the rainforest is under threat and what we can do to protect it using books, the internet, etc. When they have done their research, ask them to write a newspaper report on worksheet 5C to describe the situation.
Fancy something different...?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Split the class into pairs and provide each group with the Information Sheet. Give children some time to read through the facts then ask the group to prepare an interview role play. One child to act as a rainforest expert and the other to be the interviewer. As a pair, children to prepare the questions on worksheet 5D then rehearse asking and answering the questions. When all groups have had time to rehearse, invite groups to come to the front and perform their interview. Encourage the 'audience' to look out for pairs who included the most information in their interview answers and who asked insightful and relevant questions. 		
Plenary	Assessment Questions	
Explain that one of the ways in which we can help the rainforest personally is to make sure that we recycle as much as possible. What recycling do you do already? Is there anything else we can do? Discuss ideas as a class.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know that rainforests around the world are under threat? Can children describe reasons why rainforests are destroyed? Can children describe ways in which rainforests can be protected? 	