

English Project

Tropical Rainforests



Middle Range
Mrs Childs—April 2020

How to Use this Booklet

Dear Students

I hope everyone is doing well. I also hope you will find this work interesting. All of it is to do with tropical rainforests.

- You do not need to work through the activities in order
- You can pick work that you think is most interesting
- Do what you can, but do not worry if you get stuck. Just move on to the next thing.
- If it is too easy, try the work in the harder booklet. It is called *English Rainforest Project - more of a challenge*
- If it is too hard, try the work in the easier booklet. It is called *English Rainforest Project – straightforward*.

Good luck, and thank you for your hard work.

Mrs Childs



What you will learn about

- What a tropical rainforest is
- Where they are found
- Plants and trees of the tropical rainforest
- People of the tropical rainforest
- Explorers of the tropical rainforest.



What is a tropical rainforest?



Good question! Your job is to find out. Use the internet to find 10 facts about the rain forest. List your answers below. Remember to use full sentences please.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Where are the Tropical Rainforests?

Where are the rainforests? Shade the areas on the world map to show where the tropical rainforests can be found. You will need to use the internet to do this research.



Climate



Please read the text below and answer the questions which follow.

Tropical rainforests are always hot and wet. They can be found near the equator where it is warm. These regions have rainfall year-round, with little to no dry season. The climate of tropical rainforests is perfect for plant and animal growth. The hot and humid conditions create an ideal environment for the growth of bacteria and other microorganisms. They cover about 7% of the Earth's surface and are found all over the world but mostly in South America in Brazil. Even though they cover a small percentage of land on Earth, they are home to the largest number of plant and animal species in such a concentrated area.

1. Underline any words that you don't already know and look them up in a dictionary or using Google. Write them below:

2. Where are tropical rainforests found?

3. How much of the earth's surface do they cover?

Carnivorous Plants



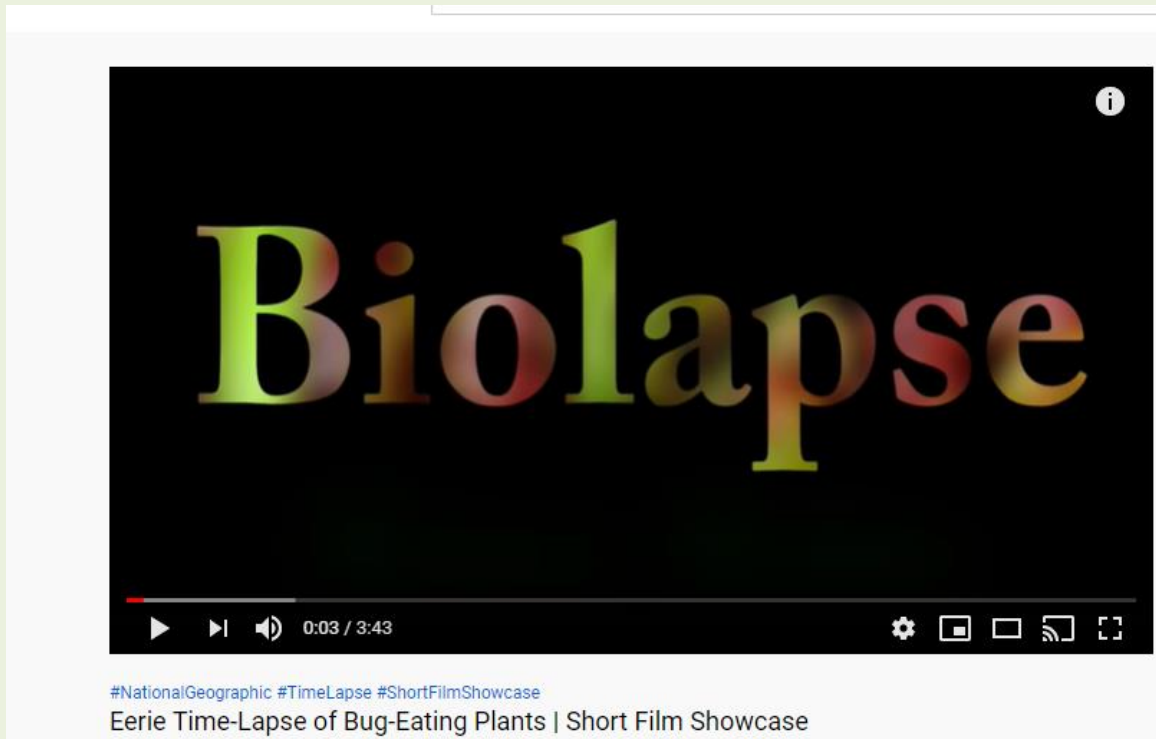
If you don't like insects, don't do this one!



Look up the word **carnivorous**, using a dictionary.

The soil in the rainforest is very poor. That means that plants cannot get all of the nutrients they need. Some have developed a very clever way of getting them! They eat insects. Watch the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UoL1dg3SzOI>



Plants & Trees



These giant lily pads are strong enough to support a child's weight!

Source of medicines

One quarter of our medicines come from rainforest plants and it is thought that there are many more potential medicines that could come from rainforest plants that have yet to be identified.

Unique

80% of the plants in the rainforest are unique to the rainforest.



Some trees grow so tall that they have special 'buttress roots' to hold them up.

Animals and Birds

The tropical rainforest has many kinds of creatures. Here a few for you to find some more about. You can use the internet. Please use adjectives in your answers. Adjectives are describing words.

Poison Dart Frog



It has _____

It eats _____

It can _____

Squirrel Monkey



It has _____

It eats _____

It can _____

Animals and Birds continued

Orangutan



It has _____

It eats _____

It can _____

Toucan



It has _____

It eats _____

It can _____

People of the Amazon Rain Forest

Go to the website for the World Wildlife Fund and search for their section titled Amazon People.

Find at least three facts and write them in the space below.



The Amazon Rain Forest – An Explorer

Percy Harrison Fawcett

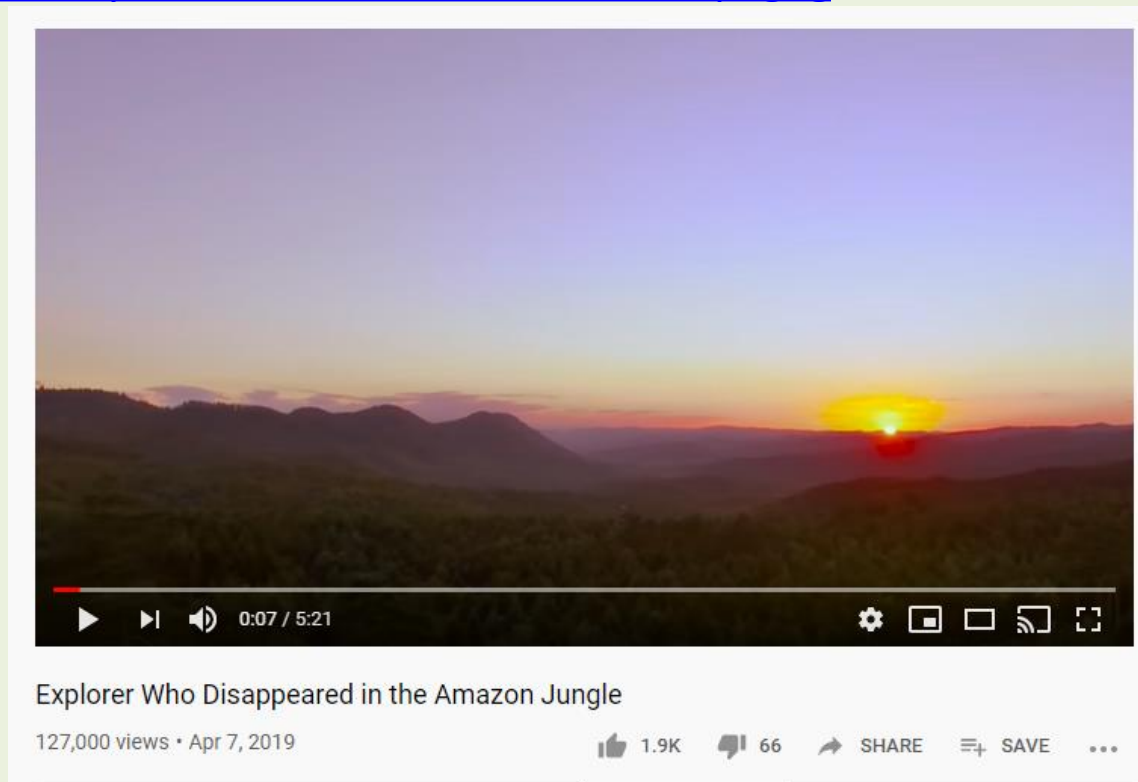
Some say that Fawcett is the 'real' Indiana Jones



Introductory video

Watch this video about Fawcett.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MoTe-ZpSg5g>



Read about Fawcett on the next page – you can ask someone to read it to you if you need to – it is quite long.

Percy Harrison Fawcett

Fawcett was a British army officer and explorer. After he left the army he made many trips to the Amazon river. He had good relationships with local tribes as he was always respectful. He also gave them gifts.

He sometimes said he had seen very strange animals and not everyone believed him. These were a 62-foot snake, a small cat-like dog, and a giant spider that poisoned locals. He also said he had seen a two-nosed dog, which we now know was true. It is called the Double nosed Andean tiger hound.

Fawcett made his last trip in 1925, with his son and his friend. He was trying to find a lost city which he called 'Z.' He wanted to be the first to discover it. He decided they could live off the jungle so only took a few supplies.

In May 1925 Fawcett sent a letter to his wife saying they were about to enter a new area of the Amazon. They were never seen or heard from again. Some say they were murdered by local tribesmen. They may also have died from disease. Some say Fawcett planned his own disappearance.

Around 100 men have since died trying to find his remains.



Check your understanding

Please answer the questions about the text. Remember to use full sentences please.

1. What year was Fawcett's last expedition to the Amazon?

2. List two strange animals he claimed to have seen?

3. Who did he take with him on his last trip?

4. Who was the last person to hear from him?

5. How many men have died trying to find his remains?



Did Fawcett really die?

Headlines from the 1930s in some claim that Fawcett is still alive in the jungle.

NEW EVIDENCE FOUND SHOWS SEEKER OF GARDEN OF EDEN MAY BE ALIVE IN JUNGLES

Buenos Aires, March 19.—(P)—Hope that Col. P. H. Fawcett, British explorer who has been missing in the Brazilian jungles for seven years.

Rio de Janeiro, with Col. Fawcett, has been missing for seven years.

TELLS OF FINDING BIG EXPLORER IN JUNGLES

Strange Fate of Colonel Fawcett Revealed When Big Game Hunter Finds Him as Captive of Indians

POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY

March, 1928

Is Lost Explorer Now Jungle God?

By FRANCIS GOW SMITH



Today, Commander George M. Dyott, explorer and lecturer, has set forth on an even more daring mission—to wring from the jungles of Brazil some clue to the mysterious fate of the vanished British war veteran, Lieut. Col. P. H. Fawcett, D.S.O.

After a life dedicated chiefly to South American exploration—as Livingstone's was dedicated to discoveries in Africa—Col. Fawcett undertook, three years ago, to survey and map the least-known fastnesses of Matto Grosso. At the age of fifty-eight, accompanied only by his son Jack and one other white com-

pany, he set forth on his mission. James Gordon Bennett of the New York Herald to find Dr. Livingstone, who in 1865 had set out to discover the long-sought sources of the Nile and for nearly seven years had not been heard of.

Stanley, leading 200 men inland from Zanzibar through the densest of African jungles, soon began to get word from the natives of a strange, bearded white man lying ill and helpless at the slave-trading town of Ujiji, on Lake Tanganyika. And there, on November 10, 1871, Stanley, exhausted by his eight months of hardship, had no words to greet the venerable missionary but these: "Dr. Livingstone,

party nothing but a son and a three years ago

Brazil.—Freed from captivity as

Writing Fawcett's letter to his wife

We do not have a copy of Fawcett's final letter to his wife. So your job is to write one.

We know that

- He was excited to be on the final stages of the journey to find the lost city of 'Z'
- He was still in good health
- He was travelling with his son and two local people.



Instructions for writing your letter

- Remember you are writing to someone you love
- Use a letter lay-out
- Your wife will have never been to a jungle, so remember to use lots of adjectives to describe the things you have **seen** and **heard** in the jungle
- Describe what you hope to find at the lost city
- Tell her if there is anything you are worried about
- Remember you are also travelling with your son, Jack. She might want to know how he is too.



Write Your Letter!

Use a separate piece of paper.

Please:

- Check your spellings
- Don't forget your full stops and your capital letters
- Try to use paragraphs if you can.



If you have time and you are feeling creative, you could try to make your letter look old by painting the paper brown first.

Conclusion

Well done, I hope you have found this interesting. If you would like to find out more about the tropical rainforests, or about Fawcett, you can look at these websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zx8n39q/revision/1>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/devon/content/articles/2007/07/13/famous_percy_harrison_fawcett_feature.shtml

