

Subject Area: Environmental Science
Unit Title: Rainforest Protection
Grade Level: Grade 2 (7-year-olds)
Lesson Number: 1 of 3

Duration: 45 minutes
Location: Classroom
Materials Needed: Visual aids, craft supplies
Technology: Projector for images

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Explain why rainforests are important for our planet
- Identify three animals that live in the Amazon rainforest
- Describe how deforestation affects wildlife
- Suggest two ways to help protect rainforests

Key Vocabulary

- **Rainforest:** A forest with tall trees and lots of rain
- **Deforestation:** Cutting down many trees
- **Habitat:** A home for animals and plants
- **Protection:** Keeping something safe
- **Environment:** The world around us

Lesson Introduction (10 minutes)

Opening Activity:

- Show large picture of Amazon rainforest
- Ask students what they see in the picture
- Create a word web of student responses

Hook:

- Tell story: "A Day in the Life of a Rainforest"
- Use sound effects of rainforest animals
- Show pictures of colorful animals and plants

Main Activities (25 minutes)

Activity 1: Rainforest Home Game

- Students pretend to be rainforest animals
- Create paper "trees" as homes
- Demonstrate effect of deforestation

Activity 2: Tree Importance Chart

- Create class chart: "Why Trees Help Us"
- Draw pictures of tree benefits
- Discussion of findings

Differentiation Strategies

Support Strategies:

- Picture cards for vocabulary
- Partner work for activities
- Movement breaks between tasks

Extension Activities:

- Create rainforest fact book
- Research specific animals
- Design protection poster

Assessment Strategies

Formative Assessment:

- Observation during activities
- Class discussions
- Drawing and writing tasks

Success Criteria:

- Can name 3 rainforest animals
- Explains why trees are important
- Participates in class activities
- Shows understanding of protection concepts

Closure Activities (10 minutes)

Review Activity:

- "Tree Pledge" creation
- Share one new thing learned
- Class discussion on helping forests

Take-Home Connection

Family Engagement:

- Draw picture of favorite rainforest animal
- Count trees in neighborhood
- Share "Tree Pledge" with family

Teacher Notes

Important Reminders:

- Keep explanations simple and concrete
- Use lots of visual aids
- Incorporate movement regularly
- Celebrate student participation
- Monitor understanding frequently