An Outdoor Adventure

Go outside, make nature crowns and become king/queen on the rainforest, identify plants and get messy!
Lesson Plan

**Teaching steps**

1. Start your lesson with the Rainforest Fact 2 video!
2. Show the What is a Rainforest? presentation and introduce Antonio the Anteater mask. Shall we take Antonio with us to look at our environment?
3. Ask children to take off their shoes and socks, take them on a short route around the outdoor area. Describe your sensations and feelings and tell Antonio how it compares to the rainforest.
4. On the journey, use Antonio the Anteater mask to tell children a fact about the rainforest.
5. Rainforests are very important as the trees of the rainforest give much of the Earth’s oxygen. Do these trees give us oxygen?
6. Take photographs of children throughout the process, print out a selection to create a ‘rainforest’ learning wall, also adding any new vocabulary to the wall.

**Resources**

We will provide:
- What is a Rainforest?
- Maria’s Letter comic
- Plant Identification
- Maria and Me
- Make a Nature Crown
- Antonio the Anteater Mask
- Rainforest Fact 2 video
- Link to Earth Cubs video

You will need:
- Magnifying glasses
- Buckets of water
- Eco glitter
- Hoops
- Tuff trays
- Grass & mud
- Spoons
- Containers
- Tablets
- Interactive whiteboard

**Learning intention**

Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.
Understanding the World

**Observation opportunities**

Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.
Understanding the World

Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.
Expressive Arts and Design

**Key questions & vocabulary**

- Have you heard about rainforests before?
- What is a rainforest?
- What’s same/different from our woodland?
- What could you meet in a rainforest?

- rainforest
- environment
- woodland

**Activity ideas**

- Read the Maria’s Letter comic and talk about her day. How is your day different? Go outside, with a friend pretend to act out some things that Maria does. Complete the worksheet Maria and Me to record your ideas!
- Go outside and place a large hoop on the ground to mark out an area, examine the plants and leaves using the Plant Identification. How do they compare to the plants/leaves in the rainforest?
- Make a Nature Crown and be king/queen of the rainforest.

**Ideas for continuous provision**

- In a tuff tray, provide real grass and mud. Allow children to dig with spoons; fill a variety of containers; use magnifying glasses and explore.
- Ask children to independently wash their hands and feet at the end of the trail. Provide water, soap and towels. Extend the activity by placing eco glitter on children’s hands to show how germs are spread and encourage good hygiene.

**Squaaawk!**

Be mindful that children can wipe out a whole area of plant life when gathering.
What is a Rainforest?

Learn about what makes Rainforests so amazing!
What are rainforests?

Rainforests are warm, wet and have lots and lots of trees! They have millions of plants and animals.
Why are they important?

The plants and trees make much of the world’s oxygen - we need that to breathe!
There are 2 types of rainforest!

Antonio says...
Oh hey! Did you know it rains a lot in the rainforest!!!
Temperate Rainforests

Temperate are young rainforests they are less than 10,000 years old.
Tropical Rainforests

Tropical rainforests are around the equator. They can be millions of years old.
Go outside, can you find any of these leaves or plants?

- Clover
- Buttercup
- Pine leaf
- Holly leaf
- Horse chestnut leaf
- Moss
- Daisy
- Oak leaf
- Dandelion
Read the comic Maria's letter. Go outside. Can you act out things Maria does in her day?
Maria’s Letter
Olá Earth Cubs!

My name is Maria.

My home is in Brazil.
Each day I wake up as the sun rises at 5am.

I go to school all day.

My school has tall trees and plants all around.
I help my family by collecting crops and catching fish.

I respect the rainforest.
The rainforest provides food, shelter and medicine.

In the evening I play with my friends and help at home!

Speak soon,

Maria
Make a Nature Crown

**Activity**
Use nature to build a crown fit for a King or Queen.

**You will need**
- Bendy tree sticks
- Tape
- Fallen flowers and grass

1. Gather bendy sticks, fallen flowers and long grass.
   Willow trees make ideal sticks!

2. Make a circle shape with your sticks and tape together.
   Don’t forget to see if it fits your head!

3. Wrap grass around the twigs. Push the flowers and sticks into position.

4. Now become King or Queen of the rainforest!
Antonio the Anteater
Cutout mask
Antonio the Anteater

Cutout mask 🐘