

RAINFOREST
ADVENTURE



THE TROPICAL RAINFORESTS

WHY THEY ARE IN DANGER
HOW YOU CAN PROTECT THEM

RAINFORESTS ARE TREASURE CHESTS OF LIFE

A rainforest is a steamy green ocean of ferns, vines, orchids and ancient trees. Brightly coloured, poisonous tree frogs, lizards that can walk on water, orang-utans that know where to find herbal remedies for headaches – the rainforest is home to nature's most brilliant creations.

Rainforests only cover three to four percent of our planet's land area, but they are home to half of its plant and animal species. Around 60 million people live in them and rely on

them for food, building material and medicine. Rainforests also store vast amounts of CO₂, making them vital for our climate.

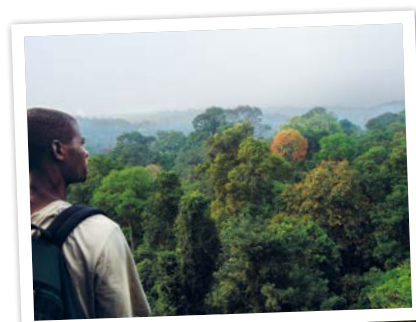
The rainforests may be far away, yet our actions here at home are destroying them. But it's not too late to protect them. This flyer will show you how our everyday lives are linked to the future of the rainforests.

RAINFORESTS ARE IN DANGER

When a tropical tree is cut down, countless other plants and animals that lived on it and around it also die. And as the forests disappear, our climate is changing.

Every minute, we are losing an area of rainforest as big as 35 football pitches. We all contribute to deforestation through our actions: giant trees are being felled to make garden furniture and paper. Farmers are clearing rainforest land for pastures and vast soya bean and oil palm plantations. The rainforest is also being destroyed forever by oil drilling and gold mining.

Read on to find out why the rainforest is in danger, and what you can do to protect it.



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THE GREATEST THREATS



WOODEN FURNITURE, DOORS, FLOORS Tropical wood is very popular because it often lasts longer and is cheaper than wood from trees in our local forests. The difference: in our forests, trees are planted for timber and harvested many years later. In the rainforests, loggers simply cut the trees down – mostly illegally.

MEAT PRODUCTION In South America, farmers cut down or burn the rainforest to make room for huge cattle pastures or to plant soya beans. Soya, which is rich in protein, is used to feed pigs and chickens. Europe imports millions of tonnes of soya every year as feed for farm animals.

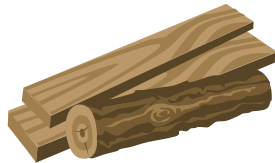
PALM OIL Palm oil is the cheapest vegetable oil. It is used in food products, soaps, cosmetics and diesel fuel. Vast areas of rainforest are being cleared for oil palm plantations, especially in Malaysia and Indonesia. And as the rainforests disappear, the last orang-utans are losing their homes.

PAPER Books, newspapers, serviettes, paper towels – we use paper every day. Much of it is made of “primary fibre”, for which trees are cut down. But for most uses, recycled paper is just as good.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT THE RAINFOREST

DON'T BUY PRODUCTS MADE OF TROPICAL WOOD

Ask your parents to buy furniture and wood products made of locally grown timber. Don't buy garden furniture made of plantation-grown teak – there are many products made of locally grown timber that are just as good. Also, please don't use charcoal made of tropical wood for grilling.



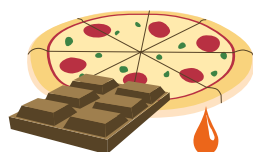
EAT LESS MEAT

Avoid beef from South America. Don't buy factory-farmed chicken, turkey or pork. Locally produced organic products (meat, eggs and milk) taste the best and are healthier. The feed for organic farm animals is grown locally and doesn't harm the rainforest.



DON'T BUY PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN PALM OIL

Read the package before you buy: “vegetable oil” is almost always palm oil. Most processed foods like frozen pizzas contain palm oil. Instead, learn to cook with fresh ingredients – it's not only fun, it's also tastier and better for you!



USE RECYCLED PAPER

One out of every three trees that are cut down is made into paper. Recycled paper is made almost completely of old paper. By buying recycled paper, you are doing your part to conserve forests. Making recycled paper also uses less water and chemicals.



DO A RAINFOREST PROJECT

Make posters or set up an exhibition about rainforests. Tell others about the rainforests and the threats they face.



SIGN OUR PETITIONS

Visit our website, rainforest-rescue.org. We have online petitions on a range of topics, and we present the collected signatures to the responsible companies and governments. By signing our petitions, you are doing your part to help protect the rainforests and their inhabitants.

DID YOU KNOW?



THE TREES OF THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

protect our climate by storing countless millions of tonnes of CO₂.



THE TIGER'S STRIPES

are unique – just like your fingerprints.



ORANG-UTANS ARE SO CLEVER

that they can identify around 1,000 types of plants.

OUR PLANET'S GREEN BELT

Tropical rainforests can be found close to the equator. The world's largest continuous rainforest is in South America, with the mighty Amazon River at its heart.

WANT MORE? VISIT WWW.RAINFOREST-RESCUE.ORG/KIDS