

Rainforest Scavenger Hunt

Visiting the Academy? Bring along this scavenger hunt and look for the plants and animals pictured below. When you find one, mark it off or poke a hole through it. Good luck and happy exploring!





Questions to consider:

Canopy

- 1. If you were a bird in a rainforest canopy, why might you hang out in a tree?
- 2. What might the hercules beetle do with its horns?
- 3. Butterflies fly from flower to flower drinking nectar. How could this help the plant?
- 4. Flowers are special plant leaves that serve a particular purpose. Why do you think flowers are brightly colored?

Understory

- 1. Macaws mostly eat fruit that grows wild in the rainforest. How might this help the plants?
- 2. How might the Madagascar day gecko's green skin help it in its tropical surroundings?
- 3. Bromeliad leaves form cups that catch rainwater. Animals such as frogs use these "cups" of water. What do you think they use them for?
- 4. How do you think this palm tree's long stiff spines might help it survive?

Forest floor

- 1. Why do you think vines grow around trees in the rainforest?
- 2. The cacao tree (where chocolate comes from) has flowers and heavy fruit that grow right on its woody trunk. How might having easily seen fruit help a tree reproduce?
- 3. Millipedes eat decaying leaves and plants on the rainforest floor. How does this help the plants in the rainforest?
- 4. Why do you think this forest floor creature is dark green-brown colored?