

# Rainforest Vocabulary Quiz Game plus Dominoes

## **carnivore**

*These are animals that eat meat. They have sharp teeth and a powerful bite. A jaguar has the strongest bite in the rainforest.*

## **marginalisation**

*This is when a rainforest animal loses part of its habitat usually when humans cut down the trees. Fewer babies are born and the animal is in danger of becoming extinct or dying out.*

herbivore

venom

carnivore

emergent layer

**Carnivores use venom to paralyse their prey so these two words can be linked!**

**Do you know what a tipiti is?**

# Rainforest Vocabulary

There are a lot (48) of cards here, so we would suggest one group or pair work with half of the cards and another with the other half. They can always swap over. I am thinking of larger cards with some picture clues if these prove too difficult. You would need to have some reference books to hand. Please send me better definitions if you have better ones!

I have a similar activity for earthquakes and volcanoes published by Oxfam as part of their work on Haiti. If you develop any on other hot topics please send them to us or send us a link if you put them on line.

The dominoes activity works like animal life dominoes. Since the activity is designed to encourage remembering and imaginative link making I would suggest that the rules could involve branching rather than just a line!

Webaddress: [www.collaborativelearning.org/rainforestvocabulary.pdf](http://www.collaborativelearning.org/rainforestvocabulary.pdf)

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Collaborative Learning = Oracy in Context  
makes challenging curriculum accessible.  
improves social relations in the classroom.  
provides scaffolding for exploratory talk.

## Basic principles:

1. Build on prior knowledge.
2. Move from concrete to abstract.
3. Ensure everyone works with everyone else.
4. Extend social language into curriculum language.
5. Provide motivating ways to go over the same knowledge more than once.

Good for all pupils!  
Vital for EAL pupils!

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Project Director: Stuart Scott

We support a network of teaching professionals to develop and disseminate accessible talk-for-learning activities in all subject areas and for all ages.

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# Rainforest Vocabulary

Words and phrases quiz/questioning game. Some of these words are only used by scientists and geographers. Other words are familiar, but are used in a special scientific or geographical way.

## Instructions

1. Work in pairs, shuffle the word/definition cards and divide the set between you.
2. Take turns to ask your partner the meaning of each word or phrase. If they are wrong you should provide the answer: if they are correct then give the card to your partner to keep in a separate pile. The 'winner' is the pupil with the most answered cards in their pile.
3. Make a separate pile of words you are still unsure of for later class discussion.
4. When you have found out the meaning of each word you are then ready to play Rainforest Dominoes.

Rainforest words and phrases quiz cards.

**emergent layer**

*The very tall trees (81metres high) poke out above the canopy to reach the sun. Many birds and insects live in this dry environment.*

**canopy**

*This consists of the upper parts of the trees in the rainforest between thirty to fifty metres up. Lots of insects, birds, reptiles and mammals live in this leafy environment.*

**forest floor**

*This is the lowest layer of the rainforest: from the ground to about a metre up. Many insects and the largest mammals live here. It is dark and the soil is poor.*

**epiphyte**

*These are sometimes called air plants. They grow high up in the canopy on the branches of trees. Their leaves are like cups to catch rainwater.*

**bromeliad**

*This is a plant with waxy leaves which are cup shaped to catch and store rainwater. They are epiphytes*

**carnivore**

*These are animals that eat meat. They have sharp teeth and a powerful bite. A jaguar has the strongest bite in the rainforest.*

**tropics**

*They are a 4800 kilometre band around the equator south of the Tropic of Cancer and north of the Tropic of Capricorn.*

**creeper**

*This is a woody climbing vine that grows up round trees to reach sunlight. Lianas are creepers.*

**venom**

*Snakes have venom in their bite which paralyses their victims. Poison frogs also have venom so that other carnivores avoid eating them.*

**herbivore**

*This is an animal that eats plants, leaves and grasses.*

**omnivore**

*This is an animal that eats everything that it can find.*

**parasite**

*This is an animal or insect that lives on or inside another animal. Sometimes parasites do good for their host but sometimes they kill their host.*

Rainforest words and phrases quiz cards.

**marginalisation**

*This is when a rainforest animal loses part of its habitat usually when humans cut down the trees. Fewer babies are born and the animal is in danger of becoming extinct or dying out.*

**plantation**

*This is when humans chop down rainforest trees and plant food crops in their place.*

**ecosystem**

*This is a group of plants and animals that live together and support each other's development. Human interference can upset this.*

**adaptation**

*This is when a plant or animal has changed its shape or function to live in a particular environment. For example some animals have developed camouflage to make it hard for their predators to find them.*

**amphibian**

*This is an animal that starts off living in water and then grows lungs so that they can live in air.*

**arboreal**

*An animal that lives in trees is arboreal.*

**buttress roots**

*These are tree roots that stick up to 3 metres out of the ground to hold the tree up. Rainforest soil is very thin so the roots can't dig down deep.*

**camouflage**

*This is a colour or pattern on an insect or animal that helps to make it difficult to see. The gibbon looks like a pile of leaves.*

**consumer**

*This is an animal that eats other animals and plants. It cannot make its own food from the sunlight.*

**producer**

*Plants and trees are producers because they make their food from sunlight, nutrients in soil and water.*

**diurnal**

*Diurnal animals are most active during the day (compare with nocturnal which is just the opposite!).*

**nocturnal**

*Nocturnal animals are most active during the night (compare with diurnal which is the opposite!).*

Rainforest words and phrases quiz cards.

**decomposer**

*Decomposers are organisms like fungi and some bacteria that break down and digest the remains of plants and animals.*

**deforestation**

*Deforestation is the loss of forests. Deforestation has many causes, including man's cutting down trees, forest fires, severe drought, disease, volcanic eruptions, changes in sea level, changes in the Earth's temperature, etc.*

**drip tip**

*The drip tip is the long, sharply-pointed tip on some rainforest plant leaves that allows water to flow quickly off the leaf surface. In the rainforest, many leaves have a drip tip. Without it, water would build up on the leaf.*

**evolution**

*Evolution is a process in which the gene pool of a population gradually (over millions of years) changes in response to environmental pressures, natural selection, and genetic mutations. All forms of life came into being like this.*

**extinction**

*Extinction is the process in which groups of organisms (species) die out.*

**eye spot**

*An eye spot is a circular, eye-like marking found on the wings of some butterflies or the body of some caterpillars. They make the insect look like the face of a much larger animal and may scare away some predators.*

**folivore**

*A folivore is animal that eats foliage (leaves). For example, the green iguana is a folivore.*

**food web**

*A food chain is the sequence of who eats whom in an ecosystem to obtain nutrition. A network of many food chains is called a food web.*

**gizzard rocks**

*Gizzard rocks are stones that some animals swallow and use to help grind up tough plant matter in their digestive system. They're also called gastroliths.*

**indigenous people**

*Indigenous people are native to that locality. A group indigenous to the Amazon rainforest is the Yanomani.*

**nectar**

*Nectar is the sweet liquid produced by many flowers. Adult butterflies sip nectar through their proboscis.*

**nurse log**

*A nurse log is a fallen tree trunk that nourishes new life on the forest floor as it decomposes. It provides a rich, moist habitat for ferns, lichens, mosses, and tree seedlings.*

Rainforest words and phrases quiz cards.

**nutrient**

*A nutrient is a chemical that an organism need to ingest in order to survive (like fats, carbohydrates, vitamins, minerals, etc.)*

**photosynthesis**

*Photosynthesis is the process in which plants convert sunlight into food energy (sugars and starches)*

**plantigrade**

*These are animals that walk in a flat-footed manner. This is a relatively slow way of walking since most of the foot comes in contact with the ground. This includes most reptiles, amphibians and early mammals (people and bears).*

**predator**

*A predator is an animal that hunts and kills other animals for food.*

**quinine**

*Quinine is a chemical that cures malaria, a tropical disease carried by mosquitoes. Quinine is found in the bark of the cinchona tree.*

**runoff**

*This is water that drains or flows from the land into streams and rivers, eventually into seas.*

**seed predator**

*This is an animal that eats and destroys seeds instead of eating the fruit and leaving the seed or dispersing the seed in its stool. Parrots are seed predators.*

**seed disperser**

*This is an animal that eats seeds (usually contained in fruit) but does not harm the seed. It passes through the animal and gets moved to another place to grow.*

**tipiti**

*The tipiti is used to remove the poison liquid from bitter cassava root. The cassava pulp is squeezed in the tipiti until the poisonous liquid is extracted. This process makes the cassava edible.*

**understorey**

*The understorey of a rainforest is a dark, cool environment under the leaves in the trees (the canopy) of a forest, but over the ground.*

**xlology**

*Xylology is the study of wood.*

**yanomamo**

*The Yanomamo are one of the many indigenous groups of people living in the Amazon rainforest in Brazil.*

## **How to play Rainforest Dominoes**

Cut out the dominoes. There are some spare ones to add words of your own which relate to the rainforest. Try to match the Key Words to make the longest line of dominoes (e.g. "yanomano" can go with "tipiti"). There are lots of possibilities and patterns (e.g. "producer" is the opposite of "consumer", "venom" and "camouflage" both protect animals etc.) When you play with a friend, deal all the dominoes. Players must agree on the links. Winner is the one to get rid of most of their dominoes!

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