

Rain Forest Ecologist

Provided by:

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Information	Program Description
2nd-5th Grade, but it can be adapted for younger or older students.	Students will explore the environment of a rainforest through the eyes of ecologist Janalee Caldwell. They will learn about the different aspects of a rainforest through lessons on nuts, frogs, and trees.
Curriculum Format	Each lesson can be presented in 45-60 minutes.
	Teaching Guide with complete instructions is provided.
	Teaching Kit with materials needed to present lessons is provided. User may need to provide standard classroom supplies (pencils, scissors, glue). If a lesson requires perishable items (e.g. milk), user is responsible for these purchases.

Lesson	Overview
One: Nutty Investigations	Students will watch a video about research ecologist Janalee Caldwell. Then they will do an activity to develop an understanding of the work of a scientist, and learn to use simple equipment to gather data.
Two: Frogs Up Close and Personal	Students will learn how camouflage helps animals survive in the wild. They will do an activity observing a colorful poison frog and see how their colors help them survive.
Three: Build a Tree	Students will learn about the unique characteristics of trees in the rainforest. They will build a rain forest tree and experiment with it to see how it can stand alone.
Four: Rain Forest in Your Room	Students will learn about animals that live in the rainforest and the essential components of their habitats.
Five: Life in a Nutshell	Students will learn that different animals progress through the life cycle at different rates. They will play a game that follows a Brazilian nutshell as it grows from an egg to an adult.
Six: The Magic School Bus in the Rain Forest	Students will learn the different layers of the rainforest and the animals that inhabit each layer.

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