

The Rainforest Resource Box (GCRR)

Use this multi-sensory resource to recreate a little bit of the rainforest in your classroom! Fully immerse pupils in cross-curricular learning with artefacts, forest products and musical instruments. Explore the fascinating world of plants and animals with these engaging resources.



Contents: -

- 1 x Seed Collection
- 1 x Set of Pan Pipes
(Zampoña)
- 1 x Rainforest CD
- 1 x Rainstick
- 1 x Hand Drum
- 1 x Medium Parrot
- 1 x Small Toucan
- 4 x Postcards

Please note contents and designs may vary.

This resource can be used to:

- *Explore rainforest cultures and life with real life artefacts and high-quality replicas.*
- *Create cross-curricular links and cover elements of the Geography, RE, History and Art and Design curriculum.*
- *Introduce the resources during whole class teaching and provide time for hands-on exploration in small groups.*
- *Encourage questioning and research.*
- *Use as starting points for 'compare and contrast' activities.*
- *Enhance classroom displays and promote discussion by displaying the items.*
- *Add the resources to tabletop areas and promote independent investigation.*



Questions you could ask children about the artefacts

Initial Discussion

- What is this object?
- Does it resemble anything the children have seen?
- What do you think the item was used for and by whom?
- Does anyone know what it is called?

Collect any other questions the children might have about the artefacts and display them as you try to find the answers through your learning sessions.

Other questions to consider:

- Where does the object come from?
- Who might have made this object? And how were they made?
- Why were they made?
- **What do the objects tell us about life in the rainforest?** *This last question can be returned to at the end of the investigation.*

All About the Artefacts

Use the information below to identify and name each of the resources. Allow time for pupils to explore and resources and to find out more about them. Locate rainforests on a world map. Research the locations and find out what similarities and differences there are between the rainforests. Create a fact file on a chosen rainforest and consider its significant features, identifying the different layers of the rainforest.

Seed Collection

The seeds found in the rainforest vary hugely in shape and size and how they are dispersed is unique to that environment. There are seeds which are dispersed by animals, either by dropping them as they eat fruit or by animals taking the seeds away and burying them. Smaller, thinner seeds can be dispersed by the wind, and seeds can even be spread in animal poo!

Talk about seeds that can be found around the school. Where can they be found?

Pan Pipes Also known as - zampoña

This Fair-Trade instrument is handmade in Peru and made from small lengths of bamboo. Panpipes come in many sizes and can include up to 20 tubes of differing lengths! The tubes are tied together in one or two rows, and each tube is open at the top and closed at the bottom. The smaller the pipe, the higher the pitch. The player should blow horizontally across the top of the pipes.

Use online resources to show videos of panpipes being played.

Rainstick

This Fair-Trade rainstick is handmade in Bali using a hollow length of bamboo with woven rattan ends. It features burnt patterning and dot painting. Bamboo can grow in abundance in rainforests because it can survive well in poorly draining soil. Use the rainstick to mimic the heavy rainfall of the rainforest!

What are the features of bamboo that makes it a sustainable option? Why does bamboo grow well in rainforests? Design and make your own rainsticks.

Hand Drum *Also known as - pellet drum, monkey drum*

This Fair-Trade hand drum is played by vertically placing the handle between the outstretched hands so that the head is above the thumbs. By rubbing the hands together, the drum rotates causing the attached beads to quickly strike each face.

Investigate ways of playing the drum to make changes to the speed and volume.

Toucan

This Fair-Trade toucan is handmade in Indonesia. Toucans are native to the rainforests of Central and South America. They are sociable birds who choose to live high in the canopy of the rainforest. They make their nests in hollowed-out tree cavities and rarely make trips to the forest floor. Toucans are 'monomorphic' which means the males and females look the same.

Toucans make grunting and snoring sounds! Use online resources to show videos of these vocalisations. Research the different animals that live in the rainforests and explore food chains and ways the animals adapt to the rainforest environment.

Parrot

This Fair-Trade parrot is handmade in Indonesia. Most species of parrot live in tropical areas but can be found in many places around the world. Rainforests are home to many different parrots, and most of them are colourful and vibrant in appearance, enabling them to camouflage well with their surroundings. Parrots travel, feed, live and communicate in social groups called 'flocks'; this means that they are able to better defend themselves, fulfil their daily needs and care for each other.

Can parrots really talk? Use online resources to explore mimicking parrots. Explore artwork that features parrots in the rainforest and recreate a favourite piece.

Rainforest CD

Listen to a range of rainforest sounds and identify key themes and instruments. Use instruments and everyday items such as saucepans to recreate the sounds of the rainforest. Create a piece of music to share with an audience perhaps alongside a display of artwork and fact files created.

For ideas and inspiration on ways of using the artefacts see our Learning with Geography Artefacts free download.

The items in this pack have been sourced by a supplier who is a member of BAFTS (British Association for Fair Trade Shops and Suppliers).

Fair Trade

Fair Trade is a worldwide movement that aims to help producers in less economically developed countries, whether they be handicraft producers or farmers. The term Fair Trade means that producers receive a fair price for the goods they produce.

Teaching the principles of Fair Trade provides learning opportunities in many areas of learning, including PSED/PSHE, Understanding the World and Geography.

The suppliers of the items in this pack are small family businesses employing only a few people keeping them in continuous work and enabling their businesses to grow.

Nearly everything in this pack is handmade with materials being sustainably sourced, and traditional skills being kept alive.

Explore further – What are the 10 Principles of Fair Trade? How does Fair Trade help producers? Research the many organisations around the world, including Fairtrade Foundation, the British Association for Fair Trade Shops and Suppliers (BAFTS) and World Fair Trade Organisation (WFTO).