

EYFS Activity Ideas: Rainforest

Area of Learning							
	C&L	PSED	PD	Literacy	Mathematics	UW	EAD
Activity Ideas	Sing a range of animal themed songs eg: <i>5 Little Monkeys, Down In The Jungle</i>	Collaborative play in Rainforest themed Small World provision – can children extend and elaborate play ideas.	Have a go at doing yoga movements to music. Can children do the tree pose on one leg? Can they balance/ stretch/ hold a position etc.	Enjoy a range of rainforest/ animal themed stories eg: <i>Monkey Puzzle, Rumble in the Jungle, Wild, Walking Through the Jungle, Rainforest Explorers</i>	Practise subitising up to 3 then 5 with animal figures. Make different arrangements of the animals and see if the children can still recognise how many without counting.	Using the book <i>Monkey Puzzle</i> as a focus, talk about our family and who we live with at home. Do we look like our mummy or daddy? (Think about eye colour/hair colour)	Use old pots, elastic bands/ tape and beans/beads to create your own rain sticks. Talk about how it rains a lot in the Rainforest.
	Using the poem on the CWP Educational Resources page, learn the poem together and think of actions to go along with the rhymes.	Talk about where the animals might sleep in the Rainforest – the Sloth hangs upside down and sleeps for most of the day, a snake might hide under logs on the ground. Talk about why we need sleep and how it helps our bodies.	Using balancing equipment outside/ making a walkway or obstacle course with large wooden blocks – children to pretend they are a Squirrel Monkey in the Rainforest and balance along the ‘tree branch’ to reach the other end.	A Fruit Bat is coming for lunch and you need to write a shopping list! Children to write phonetically plausible attempts of fruits that the Fruit Bat might enjoy for lunch. How many will they need?	Make different arrangements of animal toys/ counting animals up to 10 and then beyond if able. Using numeral cards and numicon children to practise matching the correct numeral and piece of numicon to the amount.	Go on a walk in the outdoor area and children to talk about everything they see, hear, smell and touch whilst exploring. Can they talk about any animals they spot whilst they are outside and describe the plants they see?	Using construction and Small World materials can they build a Rainforest for the animal toys? Photos of Rainforests to support as inspiration. Involve other materials such as tissue paper/ fabric or wool.
	Using photos of animals in the Rainforest, describe the animal and children guess which animal they think it is. Extension – children have a go at describing an animal for others to guess.	Read <i>Monkey Puzzle</i> and discuss how the baby monkey might have felt at certain points in the story. What makes you feel happy/sad? How can you help a friend when they are feeling sad? What do you do to make yourself happy again?	Laminate some photos of Rainforest animals (Sloth, Monkey, Snake, Fruit Bat, Agouti) Using a hole punch add holes around the edge of each picture so children can practise lacing ribbon or laces through the holes.	Using photo prompts of Rainforest animals, children to try and independently write phonetically plausible sentences describing the animal. (Animals you could use: Sloth, Fruit Bat, Snake, Jaguar)	Using animal figures/ counting animals practise number bonds to 10 (use numicon to support) and children can record on a whiteboard. Eg: arrange 2 snakes and 8 birds then record on whiteboard $2 + 8 = 10$	Look at photos of the Rainforests and photos of school – discuss what it would be like to live in the Rainforest, what would the weather be like? Where would we sleep? What would we eat? Talk about similarities and differences.	Practise mixing different shades of green paint by adding white or brown/ black. Can they fill a piece of paper in different shades to create a Rainforest background? They could then add silhouettes of animals.