



LIFE·PAC®

History & Geography



Alpha Omega Publications®

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 405

TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS

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TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS

In this LIFE PAC® you will learn about huge, warm forests on the earth where rain falls almost every day. You will discover what these forests are like. You will also learn about the

animals and people who live there. You will learn how the things that grow in the forests are used today and why the forests are getting smaller.

OBJECTIVES

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you should be able to do when you have completed this LIFE PAC.

When you have finished this LIFE PAC, you should be able to:

1. Describe rain forests and tell where they are located.
2. Name some of the products of the rain forest.
3. Identify some of the rain forest plants and animals.
4. Explain the history of the Amazon and Congo rain forests.
5. Describe the Congo and Amazon Rivers.
6. Tell of the changes being made in the rain forest.
7. Describe how people live in the rain forest.

VOCABULARY

Study these new words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFE PAC.

abundant (ə bun ' dənt). More than enough; very plentiful.

antelope (an' tə lōp). An animal of Africa and Asia that chews its cud and has hoofs.

anthropologist (an' thrə pol' ə jist). A person who studies the customs, cultures, and beliefs of human beings.

ape (āp). A large, tailless monkey with long arms. Apes can stand almost erect and walk on two feet.

balsa (bōl' sə). A tree with very lightweight wood.

basin (bā' sən). The land area drained by a river and the streams that flow into the river.

boom (büm). A rapid growth.

bribe (brīb). Anything given to get someone to do something wrong.

civil war (siv' əl wôr). A war between people from the same country.

classify (klas' i fī). To arrange in groups or classes.

dictator (dik' tā tor). A person who rules and has total power over the government.

dugout (dug' out'). A boat made by hollowing out a large log.

dye (dī). Something that can be mixed with water and used to color cloth, hair, and other things.

ecotourism (e kō' tūr' izm). Traveling to see endangered places or animals in the hopes that paying to see them will help protect them.

endangered (en dān' jərd). Something that may stop existing.

hothouse (hot' hous). A building with a glass roof and sides, kept warm for growing plants.

ivory (ī' vər ē). A hard, white material; elephants' tusks.

humid (hyü' mid). Damp or moist air.

infamous (in' fə məs). Well known for being bad.

latex (lā' teks). A milky liquid which is used to make rubber.

Latin America (Lat' n ə mer' ə kə). South America, Central America, Mexico, and most of the West Indies.

mahogany (mə hog' ə nē). A tropical tree that has dark reddish-brown wood. It polishes very well and is used to make furniture.

manioc (man' ə ok). A plant with large roots from which flour can be made.

navigable (nav' i gə bəl). Able to be traveled on by ships.

nutrient (nü' trē ənt). Any substance that is needed by living things for energy, growth, and repair of injuries.

plantain (plan' tin). A kind of large banana.

plantation (plan tā' shən). A large farm or estate on which cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, or other single crops are grown.

rapids (rap' ids). A part of a river where the water rushes quickly, often over rocks lying near the surface.

salamander (sal' ə man dər). An animal shaped like a lizard, but belonging to the same group as frogs and toads.

sap (sap). The liquid that circulates through a plant.

settler (set' ler). A person who goes to live in a new country or area.

species (spē' shēz). A group of related living things that have certain important parts or features in common.

steward (stü' ərd). A person who takes care of or manages the property of someone else. (The earth belongs to God and we take care of it for Him).

teak (tēk). A tall tropical tree with hard, heavy, durable wood used for furniture and shipbuilding.

temperate zone (tem' pər it zōn). Area of the earth in between the hot tropics and the cold arctic. Most of the USA is in the temperate zone.

tropics (trop' ɪks). Regions near the equator, between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.

vulcanize (vul' kənīz). To improve rubber by mixing it with sulfur and other things using heat and pressure.

Note: These words appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used in this LIFE PAC. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, review the definition.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ōrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /ʒh/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

I. RAIN FORESTS OF THE WORLD

A rain forest is also known as a jungle. It is a thick forest that grows in the region known as the **tropics**. These forests are very warm and get lots of rain. Many, many, many kinds of plants, animals, and insects live in rain forests. You will learn about only a few of them.

SECTION OBJECTIVES

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Describe rain forests and tell where they are located.
2. Name some of the products of the rain forest.
3. Identify some of the rain forest plants and animals.
6. Tell of the changes being made in the rain forest.
7. Describe how people live in the rain forest.

Review these words.

abundant	balsa	basin
classify	hot house	humid
Latin	America	mahogany
nutrient	salamander	settler
species	steward	teak
temperate zone	tropics	

—Major Rain Forests of the World—

This map is also for questions 1.1 to 1.4

