



## VI. Unit Activities:

### UNIT Essential Question:

How does the rainforest impact our world?

## TOPIC 2

### Topic Question:

How do the different strata of the rainforest rely on each other?

#### Daily focus questions:

- ~ What are the different strata of the tropical rainforest?
- ~ How do animals protect themselves from predators?
- ~ What is the difference between a food chain and a food web?

**TIME:** The main activity will need to spread over 3 or 4 days. The unit is set up so that teachers will spend approx. 1 hour on research/ construction and 1 hour on an additional activity that will support the lesson essential question.

**MATERIALS for the day(s):** (optional: projector and laptop), laptop cart, web access, research books on the strata of the rainforest, animals/ plants/ insects of the rainforest, construction of the rainforest supplies brought in by the students,

**TO BRING TO THE NEXT CLASS:** bring art supplies such as empty paper towel rolls, empty wrapping paper rolls, various colors of tissue paper, pipe cleaners, fake fruit, etc.

- 🌐 **Activity #1:** Students will be divided into groups and will become [experts for a specific layer/ strata](#) of the tropical rainforest. Students will research the layer assigned using book, internet, and other resources. Please refer to activity 2 (task below) on the [Rainforest Rendezvous](#) web site. Students will keep research recorded on a [graphic organizer](#). *The research/ construction will be spread out over a few days so that the teacher can do other activities related ecology standards.*

#### Task:

You will complete a series of activities for your area of the rainforest. Below are a series of tasks you will complete in this rainforest project:

- 🌐 Research the different strata of the rainforest.
- 🌐 Create a plan to "recreate" a 3-D model of your assigned strata.
- 🌐 Begin creating the items that belong in your strata of the rainforest, be sure to include all of the different items found in your strata of the rainforest. Include insects, plants, animals, fungi, climate clues, protection from predators, etc. (Activity 8)
- 🌐 Post your strata with the other strata to create a class model of the layers of the rainforest. (See notes for Activity 9.)
- 🌐 Create a summary statement that describes the rainforest level. Teacher will be looking for word choice, ideas/details, voice, and organization.
- 🌐 Group will teach the class in a creative way your strata level. Students will complete a graphic organizer.