



# RAINFOREST

## Vocabulary Words

### Week 1



- 1. decomposers** Organisms which break down dead organic matter
- 2. deforestation** The process of clearing an area of trees and other vegetation
- 3. epiphytes** Sometimes called air plants; do not need soil for their roots; get moisture and food from the air
- 4. extinct** No longer existing in the living state
- 5. environment** The surrounding conditions that influence nature
- 6. pollute** To contaminate with man-made waste
- 7. vegetation** Plant-like cover of an area
- 8. ecology** A branch of science concerned with the relationship of organisms and their environment
- 9. climate** A region with specified weather conditions
- 10. habitat** An area that provides enough food, water, shelter, and space for an organism to survive and reproduce
- 11. food web** A linked series of food chains



# RAINFOREST

## Vocabulary Words

### Week 2



- 1. exploitation** To use for some purpose or product for one's own advantage or profit
- 2. emergent** The uppermost layer of a rainforest, consists of the tops of the tallest trees
- 3. forest floor** The bottom layer of the rain forest made up of tree roots, soil, ferns, shrubs, and decaying matter
- 4. tropical rainforest** Large areas of land covered with trees and undergrowth located in the hot and humid zone between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn
- 5. understory** Second layer of the rainforest of trees and shrubs
- 6. liana** A climbing plant with a woody stem in a tropical rainforest
- 7. botanist** A person who studies plant life
- 8. preservation** To restrict an area for the protection of natural resources
- 9. food chain** A series of living things that depend on each other for energy
- 10. canopy** The layer of the rainforest made up of the tops of trees
- 11. parasite** A person or organism living in or on another organism