

## RainForest Scavenger Hunt: Grades 4-6

1. The rainforests are home to the widest variety of trees and plants. These trees and plants are being cut down to make room for farms, roads, and human homes. Why is it important to protect the trees and plants in rainforests? Why do humans and animals need trees and plants?
2. Many animals use camouflage to hide themselves from predators. They tend to be of similar color to the backgrounds in which they live. This is why most frogs and toads are green or brown. Why might poison dart frogs not need camouflage? Their bright colors make them very easy to spot; what message does this send to predators?
3. The rainforest is home to frogs and toads. Compare and contrast the Giant Waxy Tree Frog to his next-door neighbor, the Crested Toad. Read their informational placards. What do you think is the difference between a frog and a toad?
4. Fruit bats have a very specific and important role in rainforest environments; they serve as pollinators. When a bat lands on a tree and eats nectar from flowers, pollen from the flowers will get on the bat's skin. As the bat travels, this pollen will be deposited and new fruit and flowers will grow in these places. As fruit bat populations decline, what might this mean for the population of trees that rely on the bats to pollinate them?
5. Head over to the turtle and gharial exhibit. Look at the placards around the exhibit. Study the three types of turtles we have. Look throughout the exhibit, can you identify each turtle?
6. Tropical rainforests are home to the largest number of birds in the world. Take a look at the exhibit placards to see photos of all of the birds in our canopy exhibit. Looking high and low, can you spot each bird: scarlet ibis, spoonbill, aracari, jacana, ground dove, teal, quail dove, and white face duck?
7. Many species of animals, like the Macaw, slow loris, and pythons, are illegally taken from the Rainforest and sold as pets. How can you and other individuals combat the illegal pet trade?
8. Monkeys and apes are two types of primates. Francois Langurs are monkeys, while orangutans are apes. Observe both species. What is similar and what is different between the langurs and the orangutans. What do you think are the main differences between monkeys and apes?
9. Otters live both on land and in the water. Observe our otters, studying their bodies and the way they move in the water. How are they adapted to life in the water?
10. One of the largest threats to orangutans is the expansion of palm oil farming. Palm oil is used in many products including food and cosmetics. But in order to harvest palm oil, vast areas of rainforest must be cut down to plant palm. Cutting down these trees is taking away orangutan habitat. The more palm plantations that exist, the less area there is for orangutans to live. What can you and other individuals do to combat the palm oil crisis?