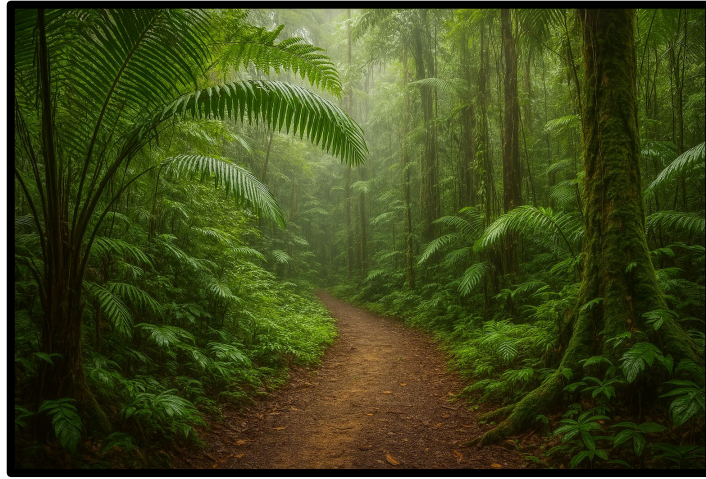


Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Text Features & Structure

Read the short story and answer each question.



Explore the Rainforest!

What Is a Rainforest?

Rainforests are thick forests that get lots of rain—sometimes more than 100 inches each year! They are warm, wet, and full of tall trees and plants. Many animals and insects live there.

The Four Layers of the Rainforest

The rainforest has four layers. Each one is different.

- **Emergent Layer** - This is the very top, where the tallest trees grow. Birds and butterflies live here.
- **Canopy** - This leafy roof blocks sunlight. Monkeys and sloths swing through this area.
- **Understory** - This dark and quiet layer has bushes, snakes, and frogs.
- **Forest Floor** - The bottom is where mushrooms grow and big animals like jaguars walk.

Why Are Rainforests Important?

Rainforests help clean the air and provide food, medicine, and homes for animals. Scientists study them to learn more about plants and nature.



Name: _____

Explore the Rainforest!

1. What is the purpose of the bold headings in this passage?

- A. To help readers find and understand different parts of the rainforest
- B. To decorate the page
- C. To list all the animals
- D. To make the story sound funnier

2. Why is the section titled *The Four Layers of the Rainforest* important?

- A. It helps the reader learn what makes each layer different
- B. It describes a rainforest fire
- C. It shows how tall trees grow food
- D. It lists what animals eat in the desert

3. Fill in the blank:

The leafy top part of the rainforest is called the _____.

4. How does the author organize the information to help the reader learn about rainforests?

5. Why is a diagram or labeled picture helpful when reading about the rainforest layers?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: N

Lexile Level: 530L-680L

Grade Level: 3rd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Informational / Geography & Ecology

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read an informational text about the rainforest. As we read, we'll look at how the author uses text features like bold headings and structure to help us better understand the different parts of a rainforest."

Vocabulary: canopy, emergent, understory, diagram, rainforest

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. Have you heard of a rainforest before?
 2. Why might it be helpful to divide a forest into parts?
 3. What do you think headings can tell us before we read?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do the different bold headings tell you about each section?
 2. How does the section about the four layers help you learn?
 3. What would be harder to understand if the author didn't break it into parts?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How do text features like headings and diagrams help readers understand nonfiction?
 2. What is one section or feature that helped you learn the most?
 3. Why do you think the author organized the text this way?
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Activity Idea

Have students draw their own diagram of the rainforest with four labeled layers and one fact about each layer. Then, they will write one paragraph explaining how the text's organization helped them understand the rainforest better.

