Layers of the Rainforest

Tropical Rainforest Strata



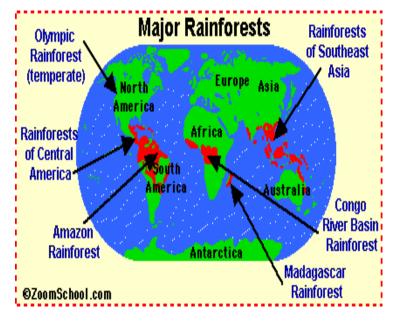
The emergents consist of the tops of the tallest trees, which are much higher than the average canopy height (ranging up to 270 feet or 81 m). It houses many birds (like the scarlet macaw), insects, and more.

- The canopy is the name given to the upper parts of the trees (about 65 to 130 feet or 20 to 40 m tall). This leafy environment is full of life: insects, arachnids, many birds (like the keel-billed toucan, the scarlet macaw, the cuckoo, and the hornbill), mammals (like the howler monkey, which is the second-loudest animal in the world, and the orangutan), reptiles (like snakes and lizards), and others. Plants in the canopy include thick, snake-like vines and epiphytes ("air plants") like mosses, lichens, and orchids (which grow on trees).
- The understory is a dark, cool environment that is under the leaves but over the ground. Most of the understory of a rainforest has so little light that plant growth is limited. There are short, leafy, mostly non-flowering shrubs, small trees, ferns, and vines (lianas) that have adapted to filtered light and poor soil. Some of these plants include ferns, palms, philodendrons, and heliconias. Animals in the understory include insects (like beetles and bees), arachnids, snakes, lizards, and small mammals (like the kinkajou) that live on and in tree bark. Some birds (like antbirds) live and nest within tree recesses and eat the abundant insects. Some larger animals, like jaguars, spend a lot of time on branches The floor of the forest is teeming with animal life, especially insects and arachnids (like tarantulas). The largest animals in the rainforest generally live here, including gorillas, anteaters, wild boars, tapirs, jaguars, and people. in the understory, surveying the area, looking for prey.



Faith Mrs.Mitchell Grade 4

Location of Rainforests in the World.



Animals of the Rainforest

Monarch Butterfly



In winter some Monarch butterflies in Mexico start to make their way North of the United states in early spring. On their way back pairs will mate. The female looks for a place to lay her eggs

Howler Monkey



The Howler Monkey is 15 different species they are all native to the forests of Central and South America. They live within five to fifteen with 3 males and the rest are females.

Humming bird



Hummingbirds only live in the western hemisphere from Southern Alaska and Southern Chile. Most live in tropics. There are more then 300 species.