

LAYERS OF THE RAINFOREST

FACT FILE

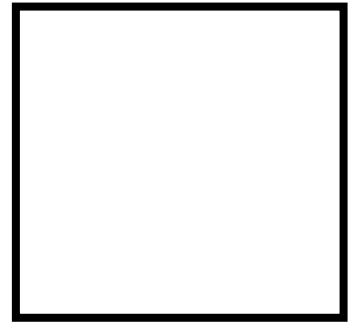
EMERGENT LAYER

Conditions: It is very **hot** but also very breezy, wet and lacks shelter.

Plants: It is made up of the **tallest** trees in the rainforest.

Animals: Most of the creatures that live in the emergent layer are **birds** like hummingbirds and macaws

Other interesting facts: The emergent layer isn't a very good **habitat** for animals.



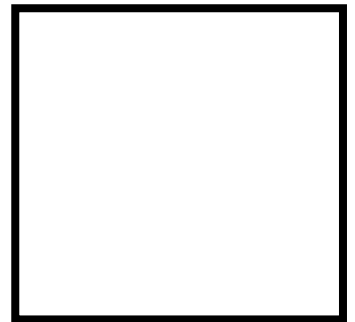
CANOPY LAYER

Conditions: There is lots of **sunlight** and plenty of **rain**.

Plants: The **branches** and **leaves** of the trees join up to form a roof over the rest of the rainforest.

Animals: Animals that live here are **arboreal** meaning they live in trees. This includes sloths, orangutans and red-eyed frogs.

Other interesting facts: The canopy is full of **fruit** and nuts all year.



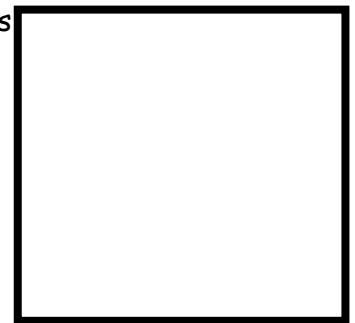
UNDERSTORY LAYER

Conditions: The understory is very hot, dark and **damp/humid** As little as 1% of sunlight reaches this layer.

Plants: The understory is made up of bushes and small trees. Plants have to grow larger leaves to reach the little **sunlight** there is.

Animals: The understory is home to **insects**, snakes and smaller animals.

Other interesting facts: Larger **predators** use the low trees to watch and pounce on their prey.



FOREST FLOOR LAYER

Conditions: It is dark and **humid**: almost no sunlight reaches this area.

Plants: Not many **plants** grow here. The forest floor is covered in **dead** leaves.

Animals: The forest floor is home to the rainforest's **largest** animals like jaguars, ocelots and elephants.

Other interesting facts: The dead leaves decompose and give **nutrients** back to the soil to help other plants grow.

