

# INTO THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

By: Oliver

The Amazon Rainforest gets 6-30 feet of rain a year!

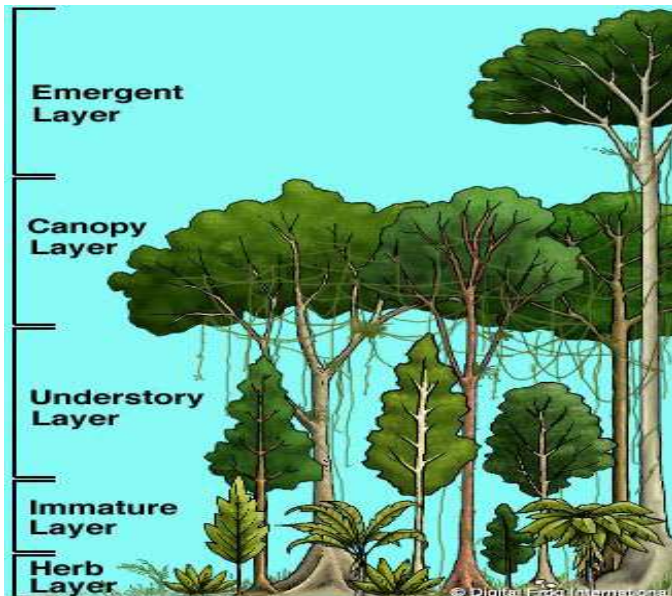
Emergent trees can be up to 300 feet high!

The equator cuts through the Amazon Rainforest.

The temperature ranges from 70-90 degrees.

The Amazon River carries 2/3 of the earth's fresh water.

There were once 10 million Amazon Indians, but now there are only 100,000.



# JAGUARS

## DESCRIPTION:

The jaguar is the largest and most powerful cat of the Western Hemisphere, averaging up to 1.8 meters in length, not including the tail, and ranging in weight from 36 - 158 kilograms. Jaguars are rarely seen in the wild because they are shy and they are well-camouflaged coats. Most jaguars are yellowish in color, spotted with large black dots or rings.

## HABITAT:

The range of a jaguar has shrunk over the last 100 years. The last jaguar in California was killed in 1860 and the jaguar disappeared from the United States by 1950. The jaguar now lives in a wide range of habitats besides tropical forests; they live in swamps and scrub as long as water is there. They like to lurk around water where they can find prey. Its habitat is about 5 to 10 square kilometers. In areas where there is not much food, territories may need to be five times the normal size.

## PREDATORS:

Man is the only predator of the jaguar.

## FEEDING:

The jaguar is not a fussy eater. It preys on animals such as deer, sloth, monkeys and armadillo. As an excellent swimmer, the jaguar can hunt and eat fish, turtles and snakes. They hunt day or night, and if you see one it's most likely to be on a man-made trail. Their eyes reflect a bright greenish yellow if seen in a flashlight. After they kill they take the prey to dense underground to feed.

## REPRODUCTION:

After one hundred days the female gives birth to one to four kittens which are spotted and blind. At birth, the kittens weigh about one kilogram which equals about two pounds. Kittens spend much of their time with the mother, and at about six months they begin to learn hunting skills from the mother as they hunt with her. After leaving the mother, the young jaguar makes a territory of its own.

## ADAPTATIONS:

The jaguar has developed a powerful bite, even to other big cats. This allows them to pierce the shells of reptiles, and to use an unusual killing method: it bites directly through the skull of prey between the ears to deliver a fatal blow to the brain. Jaguar colors blend into the dead leaves and trees. They are good swimmers and they can see at night.

# RAINFOREST PEOPLE FACTS

1. They play lots of games.
2. They survive by hunting.
3. They enjoy music.
4. They make baskets.
5. They have dances.
6. Decorate pots
7. Fishing
8. Colorful
9. They use everything in their surroundings to survive.
10. They even make model airplanes out of very light wood.
11. It seems like they have FUN!



# RAINFOREST HAIKUS

#1

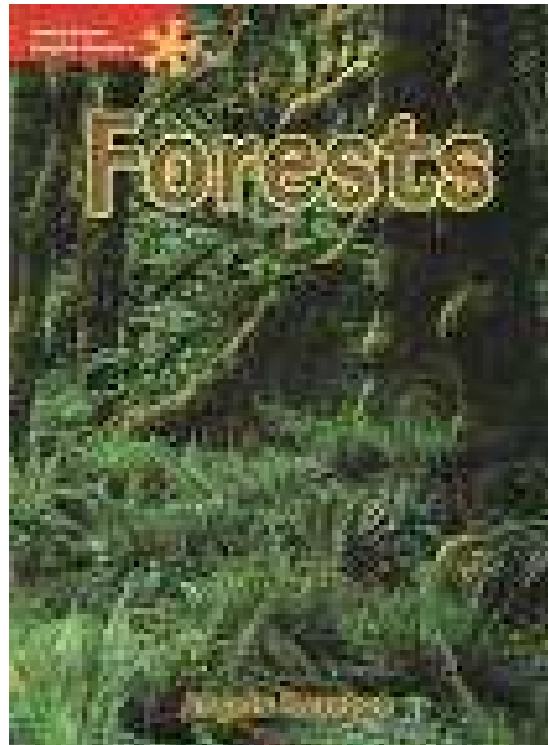
The lightning strikes once  
The tree frog jumps on the leaves  
Lightning strikes again

#2

The wind blows the leaves  
The jaguar wakes up and growls  
Rain comes through the leaves

#3

Pollution kills plants  
People are cutting down trees  
The rainforest dies



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