Tropical rainforests are tall, dense jungles, bursting with biodiversity (plant and animal life). They’re found in five main places around the world – Africa, Asia, Australia, Central America and South America. Warm, humid and – yep, you guessed it – wet, these amazing places can get between 80-400 inches of rainfall a year – wow!

Warm temperatures, rich soil, moist conditions and thick plant cover make rainforests the perfect environment for wildlife to flourish! In fact, these awesome ecosystems are home to more than half of all plant and animal species on earth – from ginormous flowers and mischievous monkeys, to super sloths and beautiful big cats!

Rainforests aren’t just home to amazing animals, they’re home to hundreds of indigenous people, too. It’s thought that some have never had contact with the outside world!

Rainforests are bursting with color!

The name jaguar means ‘he who kills with one leap’!

Rainforests are bursting with color!

Squirrel monkeys make around 25-30 different calls!

It can take sloths around 30 days to digest a single leaf!

FUN FACT!
Rainforests play an important role in limiting climate change! Their rich vegetation takes carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) out of the air and releases oxygen.

FUN FACT!
More than 80% of the world’s food has origins in the Amazon rainforest!

Did you know?
- The world’s biggest rainforest, the Amazon, spans eight South American countries, while the world’s smallest rainforest, Bukit Nanas Forest in Malaysia, is about the same size as Alcatraz Island!
- Around 25% of the world’s medicines are made from plants found in the Amazon rainforest!
- It can take a falling raindrop 10 minutes to travel from the rainforest’s thick canopy to the forest floor!

Sadly, rainforests are being lost to deforestation – meaning they’re cut down for timber or to make way for roads and farming. The good news is that charities, conservation groups and people around the world are working to protect these incredible places, and you can help, too!

☐ Spread the word!
Tell your friends and family why rainforests are important.

☐ Check the label!
Avoid products containing palm oil – one of the biggest reasons for deforestation.

☐ Give back!
Support a rainforest charity – host a bake sale or dress up for sponsorship!