

LESSON 1: WHAT ANIMALS LIVE IN THE RAINFOREST?

Lesson plan overview

In this lesson, students will explore the rainforest by learning about key animals and the four rainforest layers: emergent, canopy, understory, and forest floor. Through fun and interactive activities, students will identify where animals like the jaguar, poison dart frog, Scarlet Macaw, anaconda, and sloth live—and begin to understand how different habitats support different species. The lesson encourages curiosity and introduces the rainforest as a vibrant, biodiverse ecosystem.

Educational materials

- **Videos:** Meet the rainforest animals (tree frog, anaconda, jaguar, macaw)
- **Worksheet:** Animal matching game! Match animals you just met to their descriptions and rainforest layers (emergent, canopy, understory, floor)
- **Quiz:** Picture-based quiz identifying animals and rainforest layers
- **Word search:** Find rainforest words
- **Coloring pages:** Scarlet Macaw and red-eyed tree frog
- **Math tie-in:** Counting animal legs, wings, and colors
- **Art tie-in:** Create a rainforest mural for your classroom!
- **Classroom discussion questions:**
 - What animal did you like best and why?
 - What other animals live in the rainforest?

WORKSHEET: Animal Matching!

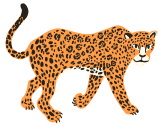


Name: _____ Date: _____

Let's explore some amazing rainforest animals! Use what you learned from the videos to complete the matching games and questions below.

Animal matching game!

Draw a line to match each animal to its description and the layer of the rainforest where it lives.



JAGUAR



RED-EYED TREE FROG.



SLOTH



ANACONDA



SCARLET MACAW

ANIMAL

Moves very slowly and hangs from branches

Hunts quietly and walks on the ground

Has sticky toes and sleeps on leaves

Has bright feathers and flies above the trees

Swims in rivers and waits for prey

CHARACTERISTICS

Forest floor

Canopy

Emergent layer

RAINFOREST LAYER

QUIZ: Where Do I Live?



Name: _____ Date: _____

After meeting our rainforest animals, answer the following questions about each animal. Circle your answers.

True or false: Jaguars live on the rainforest floor.

TRUE OR FALSE

Which animal has bright feathers and can fly?

- A. Jaguar
- B. Sloth
- C. Scarlet Macaw
- D. Red-eyed tree frog
- E. Anaconda

Which animal hangs upside down and moves slowly?

- A. Jaguar
- B. Sloth
- C. Scarlet Macaw
- D. Red-eyed tree frog
- E. Anaconda

Draw a line to match each of these animals to where it lives in the rainforest layers.

- Jaguar
- Scarlet Macaw
- Sloth

- A. EMERGENT
 - B. CANOPY
 - C. UNDERSTORY
 - D. FLOOR

QUIZ: Answer Key with Explanations



True or false: Jaguars live on the rainforest floor.

Answer: True

► Explanation: Jaguars are powerful predators that mostly hunt and live on the forest floor, where they stalk prey like capybaras and deer. This was discussed in the lesson materials and reinforced in the jaguar video.

Which animal lives in the canopy?

Answer: Red-eyed tree frog

► Explanation: The red-eyed tree frog lives high in the canopy, where it uses sticky toes to climb on leaves. This aligns with the video and animal layer diagram in the worksheet.

Which animal has bright feathers and can fly?

Answer: Scarlet Macaw

► Explanation: Scarlet Macaws are brightly colored birds that live in the canopy and emergent layers and are known for their loud calls and colorful feathers. They were introduced in both the visuals and videos.

Which animal hangs upside down and moves slowly?

Answer: Sloth

► Explanation: Sloths live in the canopy and are known for being slow, sleeping a lot, and hanging upside down. This question is designed to reinforce key traits from the sloth video.

Match the animal to where it lives:

Jaguar → Rainforest floor

Sloth → Canopy

Scarlet Macaw → Canopy and emergent layers

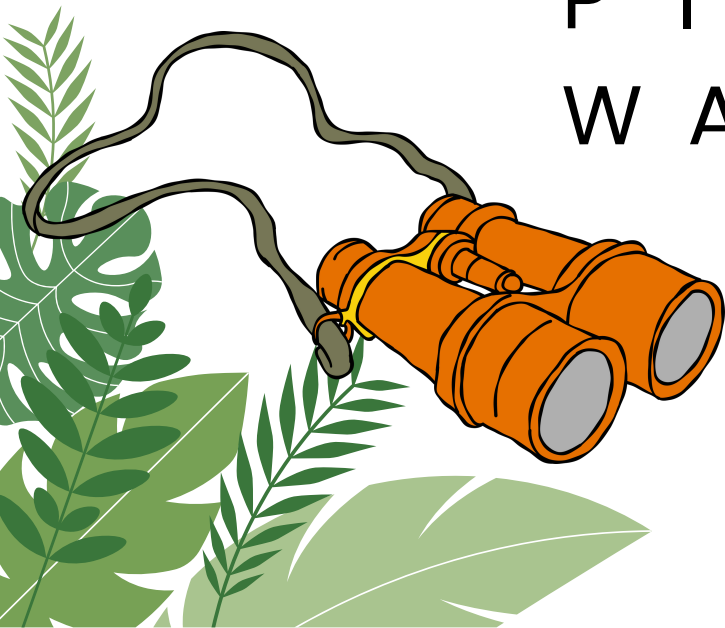
► Explanation: This matching question reviews rainforest layers and animal habitats, reinforcing concepts introduced in the main lesson and videos.

Word Search!

Find these rainforest words in the puzzle below:

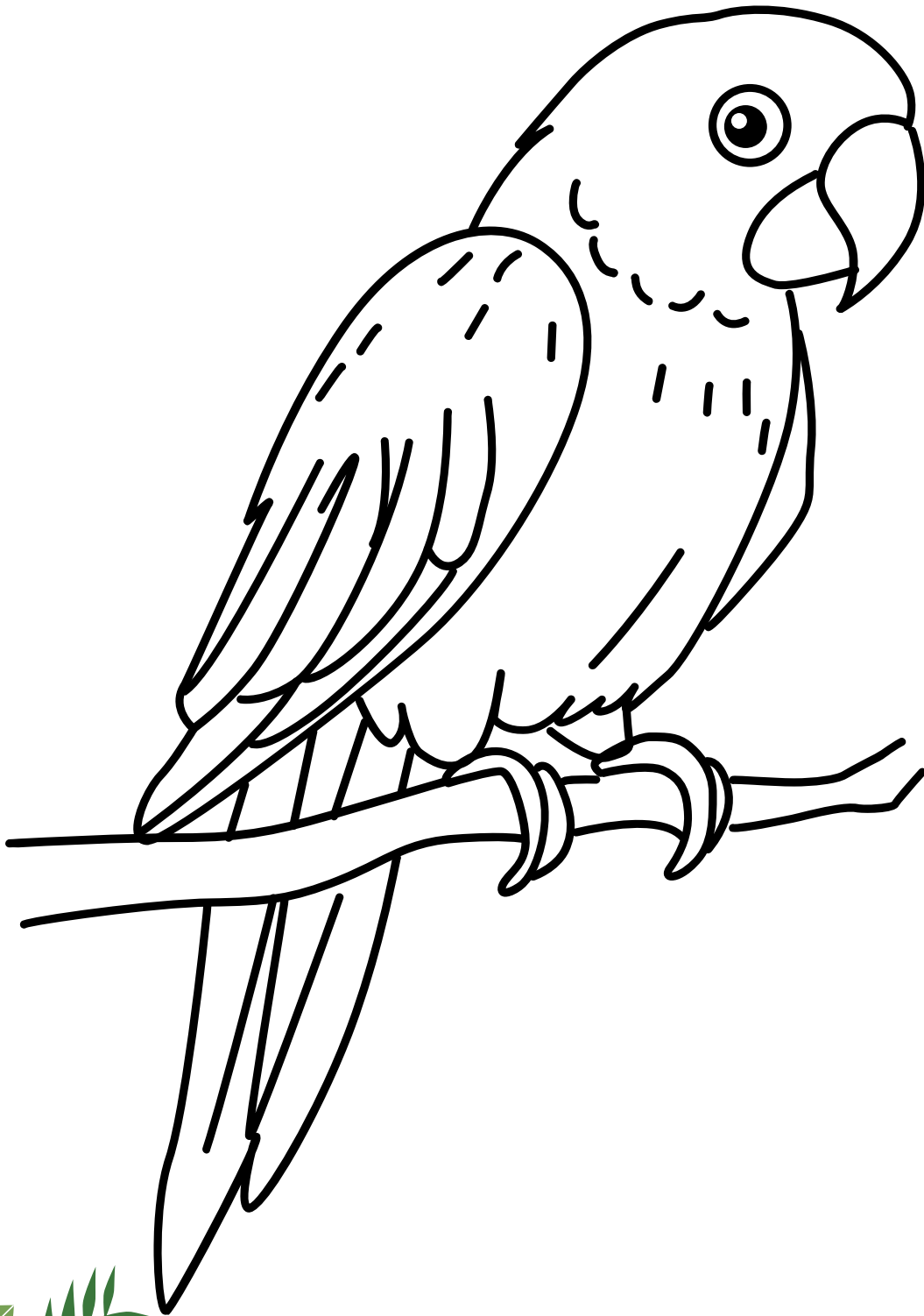
FROG
TREE
RAIN
SLOTH
JUNGLE
SNAKE
BIRD
CAT
PLANTS

S F R O G C A T N
N L A I R B I R D
A P L A N T S S O
K E J U N G L E T
E T R E E X O H H
L O T S A R I N E
O L S L O T H Q M
P I R D S B E M S
W A I N A S E D K



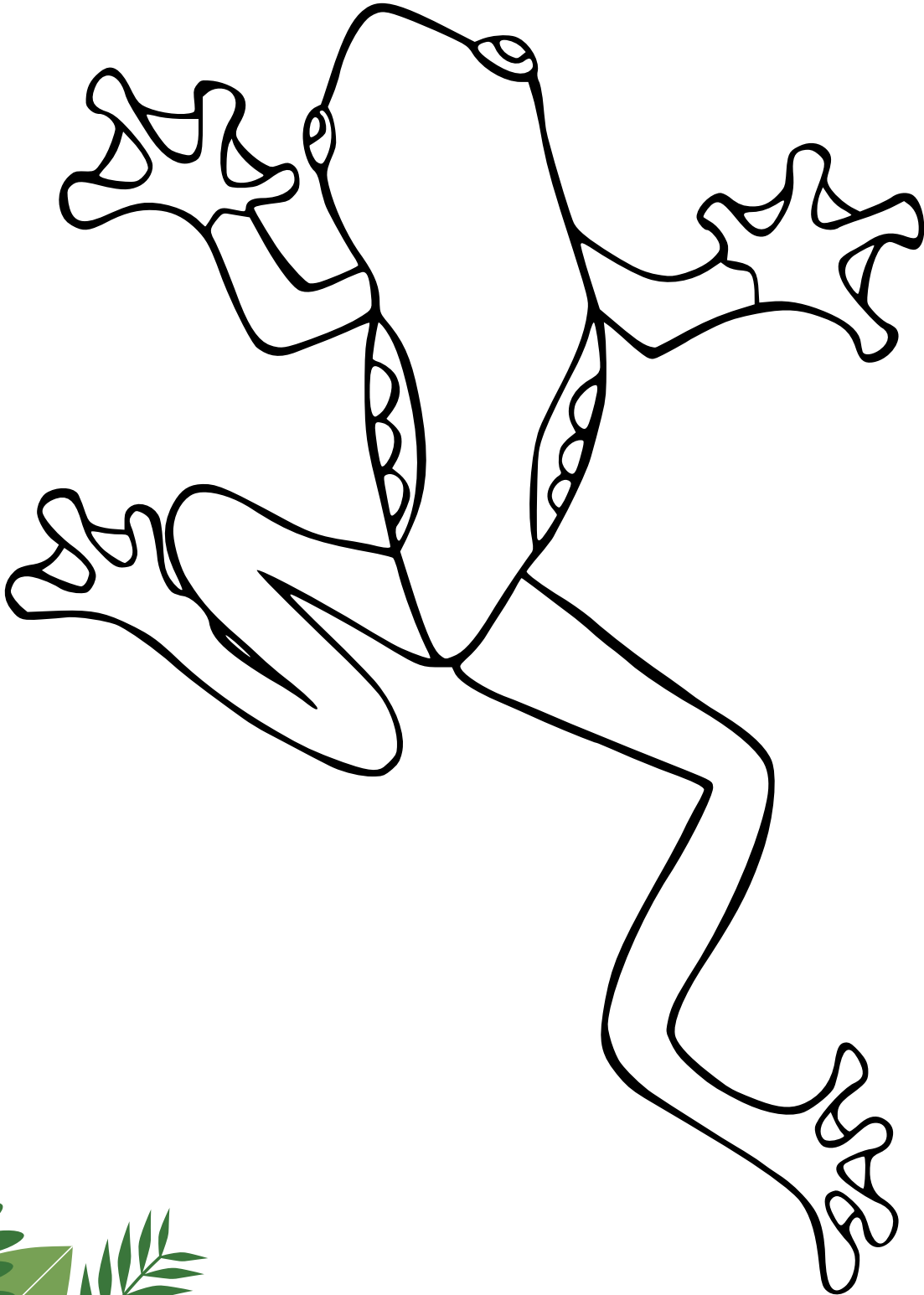
Color Me!

I'm a Scarlet Macaw. Color my feathers!



Color Me!

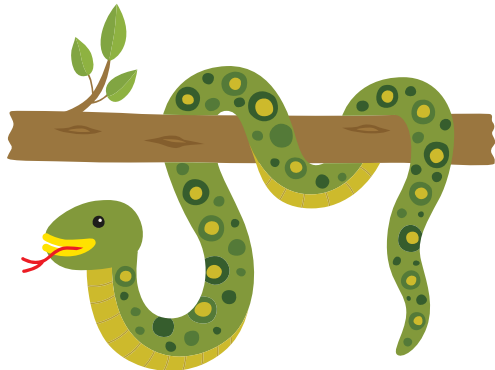
I'm a red-eyed tree frog. Help color me!



MATH TIE-IN



Count how many legs, wings, and colors I have!



LEGS

WINGS

COLORS







ART TIE-IN



Create a rainforest mural for your classroom!

HERE IS SOME INPIRATION

PAINT A MURAL TOGETHER



OR COLOR ONE IN!

