



ActionAid's 'Explore Brazil' resources bring the rainforest into the classroom and introduce the plants, animals and people that live there.

**Objectives:** To locate Brazil and the Amazon rainforest  
To identify features of the landscape  
To explore how land is being used and how this is changing  
To understand the connections between Brazil and the UK

## Curriculum links:

### Geography:

Locate South America, Brazil, Manaus, river, equator, rainforest, ocean/sea

Identify key physical features of the rainforest

Use aerial photographs to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features

Use simple compass directions and locational and directional language to describe the location of features and routes on a map

### Science:

Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals

Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their natural habitat

### PSHE:

Living in the wider world, learning about different groups and communities

Learning about the importance of respecting and protecting the environment

### English:

Writing poetry

Sequencing sentences to form short narratives

## Resources

1. Brazil fact poster
2. Rainforest photopack
3. Fact bookmark
4. Icon sheet

## Activities

1. Map key
2. What is the rainforest like?
3. Plants in the rainforest
4. Animals quiz
5. Build a rainforest
6. Who lives in the rainforest?



Why not try our **NEW** workshop 'The Lost Suitcase: Explore Brazil'? More information can be found at [actionaid.org.uk/schools/book-a-talk](http://actionaid.org.uk/schools/book-a-talk) or call us on 01460 238 000

# KS1 Rainforest Animals

## Teachers Notes

Learning Objective	Learning Outcomes
<p>To understand that animals have different patterns and markings on their bodies. To know the purpose of the patterns and markings (camouflage, warning).</p>	<p><b>All children to be able to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the patterns of the rainforest animals</li> <li>• Illustrate their observations of the animals markings</li> </ul> <p><b>Some children to be able to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the purpose of the animals patterns and markings</li> </ul>
Curriculum Links	
<p>Science: Sc2. 2a – Pupils should be taught to recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans and other animals. Art and Design 1a – Pupils should be taught to record from first-hand observation and explore ideas.</p>	

### Activity notes

#### What colours and patterns do these rainforest animals have?

This activity is for the children to find out what colours and markings some of Marwell's rainforest animals have, and colour them in on the provided sheet.

A help sheet with a picture of what each animal should look like has also been provided, should you wish to use it.

An extension to this activity would be to get the children to describe why the animals may have particular markings. Are they camouflaged? Or is it to show that they are poisonous?



# Rainforest Animals

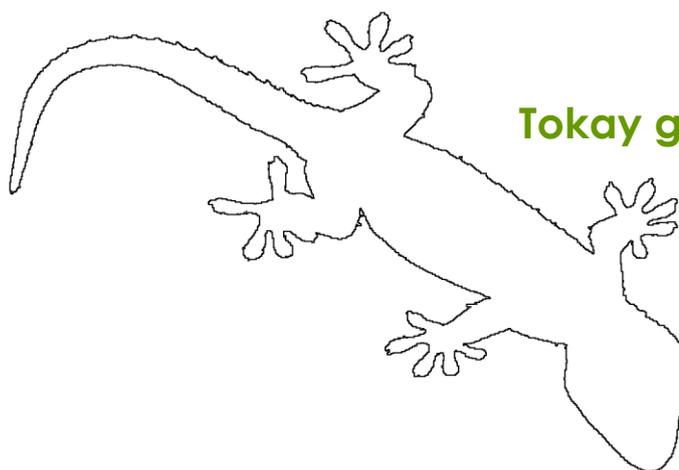
What colours and patterns do these rainforest animals have? Colour in the patterns of the animals on these outlines.



**West African dwarf  
crocodile**



**Madagascar tree  
boa**



**Tokay gecko**

**Green and black  
poison dart frog**

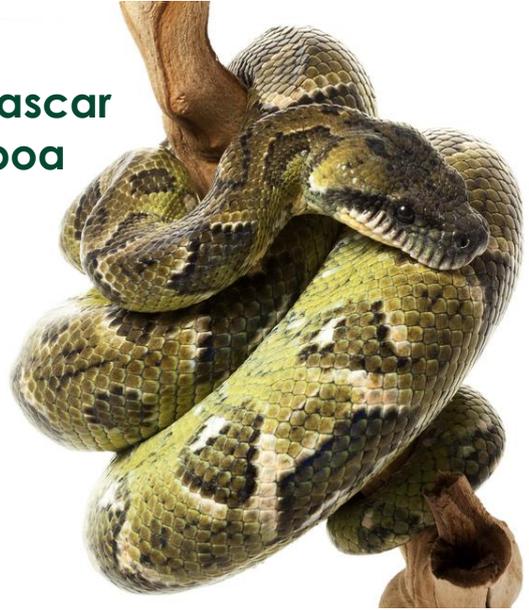


Do any of these animals have patterns or colours which they can use to camouflage themselves?

# Rainforest Animals

## Help Sheet

**Madagascar  
tree boa**



**West African dwarf  
crocodile**

**Tokay gecko**



**Green and black  
poison dart frog**



# Activity 1 - Where is the Amazon rainforest?

## The rainforest - how places change

A simple outline map of South America encourages pupils to begin investigating the different symbols and markings found on maps. This activity includes a 'complete the key' task and a second reveal sheet. Why not use the marked equator to discuss why it might be hotter in Brazil than the United Kingdom?

### Curriculum links:

#### Geography:

Locate South America, Brazil, Manaus, Amazon, rainforest, river, equator, city, ocean/sea

#### Starter questions:

Where have you been on holiday?

Has anyone been to Brazil?

Can you find Brazil on a globe?

#### You might need:

**A globe** - to locate Brazil and the countries you would have to fly over to get there

#### Works with:

**Resource 1** - Brazil fact poster

#### This might help:

Equator - the National Geographic has an excellent encyclopedic entry on the equator along with a useful photo gallery:

[education.](#)

[nationalgeographic.](#)

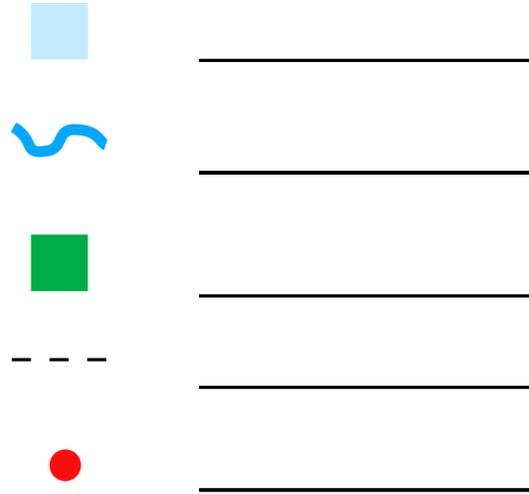
[co.uk/](#)



## Activity Sheet - Map of Brazil



Take a close look at this map of South America. Brazil is highlighted in yellow and green. Here is a key for this map:



A key shows us what different things on the map mean. This key has symbols for different features.

- 1 What do you think the blue square stands for?
- 2 What is the dotted black line?
- 3 What could the blue curvy line be?
- 4 What is the green area around the blue line?
- 5 What is the red dot?

## Activity Sheet - Map of Brazil



Sea/ocean



Amazon river



Amazon rainforest



Equator



City

The capital of Brazil is Brasilia, you can see it marked in the centre with a red dot. The Amazon rainforest is the world's largest remaining rainforest and over half is in Brazil. Brazil is found on the continent of South America which is highlighted in grey.

Can you name any other countries in South America?

## Activity 2 - What is the rainforest like?

### The Rainforest - how places change

**This activity enables pupils to begin labelling photos with geographical terms.** Pupils can then imagine what they might see, hear, smell and feel in the rainforest by using the activity sheet to write a poem.

### Curriculum links:

#### Geography:

Identify key physical features of the rainforest

Use aerial photographs to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features

### Starter questions:

What is a forest?

What do you think a rainforest is?

### Works with:

**Resource 2** - Rainforest photopack

### This might help:

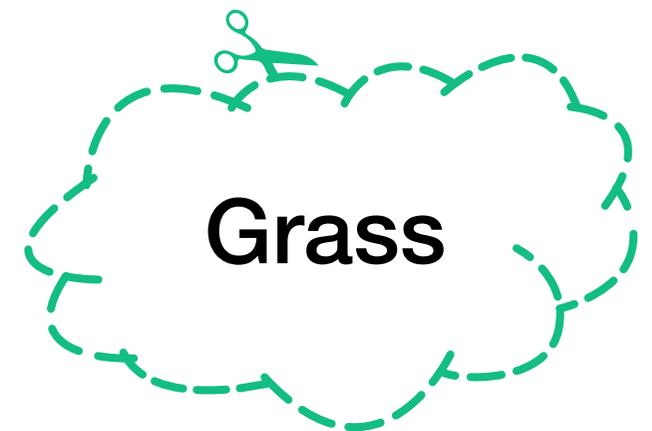
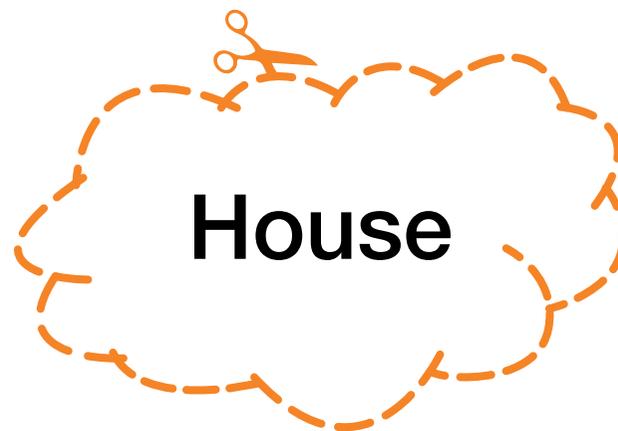
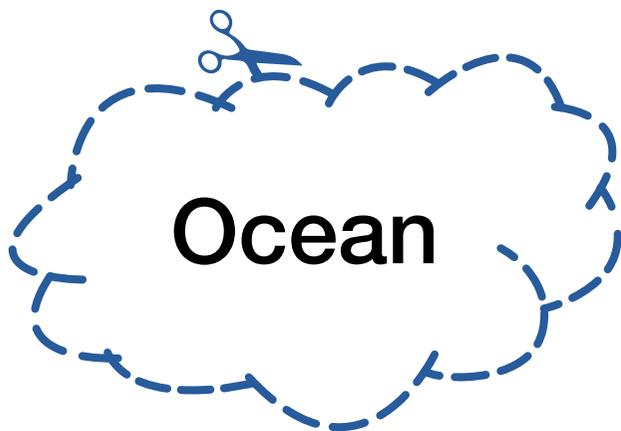
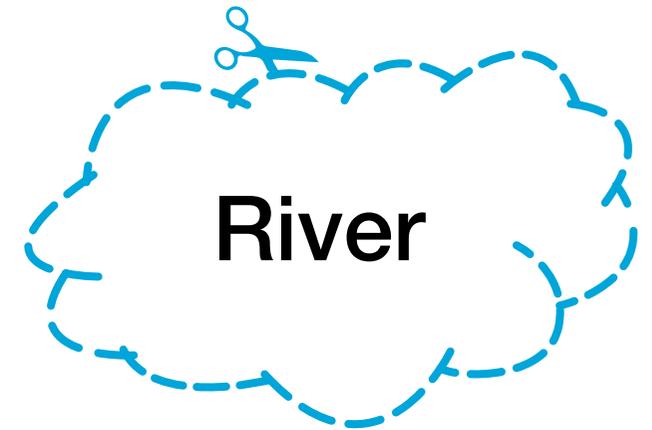
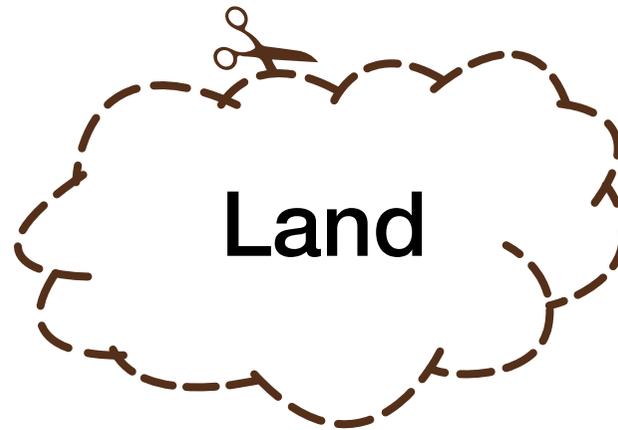
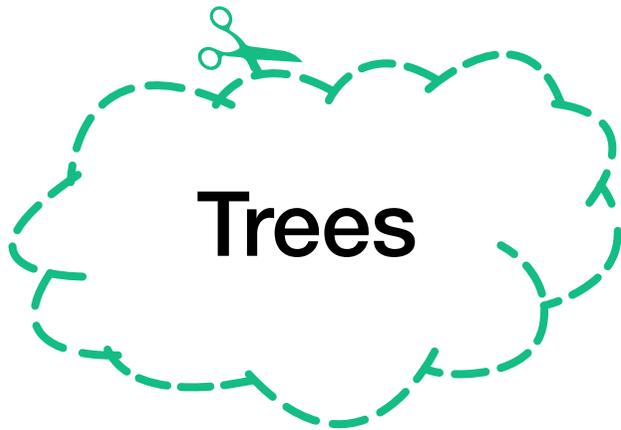
Facts - the National Geographic has its own amazing Amazon facts along with photos of some Amazon animals.

[ngkids.co.uk/did-you-know/amazon-facts](http://ngkids.co.uk/did-you-know/amazon-facts)



# Activity Sheet - What is the rainforest like?

Carefully cut out the clouds below and put them onto to the photos where you think they match what you can see.



## Activity Sheet - My rainforest poem

Imagine you are in the middle of the Amazon rainforest. What would you see, hear, smell and feel? Write a poem using the lines below.

**I see** \_\_\_\_\_

**I hear** \_\_\_\_\_

**I smell** \_\_\_\_\_

**I feel** \_\_\_\_\_

# Activity 3 - Plants in the rainforest

The Rainforest - how places change

Use this activity to get pupils thinking about the diversity of plant species that grow in the **Amazon rainforest**. The activity sheet asks pupils to describe flowers, fruits and nuts and then have a go at completing their own sentences.

(\*Bananas are 75% water)

## Curriculum links:

### Science:

Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats

### English:

Sequencing sentences to form short narratives

## Starter questions:

Can you name a plant?

What is your favourite flower?

Can you describe it?



# Activity Sheet - What grows in the rainforest?

Look at the photos below. All these plants grow in the rainforest. Use the words on the right to describe each fruit. You could make up a sentence about each one.



**These are bananas.**

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**These are oranges.**

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**This is a mango tree.**

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pale green

smooth

bunch

juicy

oval

vitamin c

soft

citrus fruit

sweet

75% water

# Activity Sheet - What grows in the rainforest?

Look at the photos below. All these plants grow in the rainforest. Use the words on the right to describe each fruit. You could make up a sentence about each one.



This is an orchid.

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This is a flower called a bromeliad.

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This is a cashew nut on a cashew tree.

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delicate

bright

white

oval

spiky

curved

green

nutritious

crunchy

fragrant

# Activity 4 - Animals of the rainforest quiz

## The Rainforest - how places change

**This quick animal quiz will help learners to identify and name a variety of common animals.** Can your pupils spot the animal which doesn't live in the rainforest? The activity includes 10 high-resolution animal photos, facts about each animal and additional questions.

### Curriculum links:

#### Science:

Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals

### Starter questions:

Does anyone have any pets?

What is a wild animal?

Do the same animals live all over the world?

### This might help:

WWF provide more in depth information on some of the incredible animals that live in the rainforest:

[http://wwf.panda.org/what\\_we\\_do/where\\_we\\_work/amazon/about\\_the\\_amazon/wildlife\\_amazon/](http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/where_we_work/amazon/about_the_amazon/wildlife_amazon/)





Jenny Matthews/ActionAid

## Activity - **Animals of the rainforest quiz**

**Animals of all shapes and sizes live in the rainforest.** Can you help answer some questions about these animals and reveal the secret facts? One of these animals doesn't live in the Amazon rainforest. Can you work out which one?

1



1

**Q.** The name of this animal is...

**A panther**

**A jaguar**

**A cheetah**

**A.**

Jaguars are the largest of Brazil's big cats and the third largest in the world after lions and tigers. Unlike many other cats, jaguars don't avoid water and are actually quite good swimmers!



What can you see in this picture?

What colour is the water?

Why do you think jaguars like to be in water during the middle of the day?



Q. Is this parrot a...

Mammal

Bird

Fish

A.

Parrots are birds. This type of parrot is called a Yellow-Headed Amazon parrot. It can live for up to 60 years.



What can you see in this picture?

What colours can you find?

How old do you think this parrot is?



Q. This insect is a...

Dragonfly

Moth

Butterfly

A.

The rainforest has some of the world's biggest insects. This is an Amazon Blue Morpho butterfly. Its wings can be as wide as 18 cm which is probably bigger than your hand!



What can you see in this picture?

What colours can you find?

Have you ever seen a butterfly?



Q. This monkey is a...

Reptile

Bird

Mammal

A.

Monkeys are mammals. This monkey is a spider monkey. It wraps its tail around trees like an extra arm. There are so many species of monkey in the Amazon scientists keep discovering new ones.



What can you see in this picture?

What do you think the monkey is doing?

Which is longer, the monkey's arm or its tail?

5



**Q.** This name of this animal is a..

**Cow**

**Zebra**

**Donkey**

**A.**

These cows live in the rainforest but it is not their natural home. They were brought here to help farm the land and provide milk and other dairy products.



What can you see in this picture?

Look at picture 1 again. What do you notice about the water here that is different?

6



**Q.** This animal eats...

**Plants**

**Meat**

**Chocolate**

**A.**

This is a caiman, a type of crocodile. These animals are carnivores, which means they eat meat. Caimans have scaly skin and are mostly nocturnal. Some can grow to be around five metres long!



What can you see in this picture?

How is this caiman different from the spider monkey?

How many teeth can you count?

7



**Q.** This turtle has a hard...

**Skin**

**Shell**

**Head**

**A.**

Turtles have hard shells to protect them from predators. The Giant Amazon River Turtle can have a shell longer than 70cm and can weigh as much as 100kg, more than most men!



What can you see in this picture?

What do you notice about the turtle's feet?

What type of animal is a turtle?



**Q.** A tapir uses its long snout to...

**Smell animal  
scents**

**Clean itself**

**Pluck fruit  
from trees**

**A.**

Tapirs are herbivores, meaning they eat plants and fruit. They use their long snout to pluck fruit from trees. They are related to horses and rhinoceroses. Tapirs enjoy water and like to swim and wallow in mud.



What can you see in this picture?

Does this tapir remind you of any other animals?

What are the Tapir's feet like?



**Q.** A dragonfly is an insect...

**True**

**False**

**A.**

Dragonflies are insects. This dragonfly is a Flame-tailed Pondhawk. Over 90% of animals in the rainforest are insects. Dragonflies can fly backwards, change direction in mid-air and hover for over a minute.



What can you see in this picture?

How big do you think this insect is?

What is the same and different as other animals?



**Q.** This animal eats...

**Meat**

**Crisps**

**Leaves**

**A.**

You've spotted it! Giraffes don't live in the Amazon rainforest. They are the tallest animal in the world and might like eating leaves from the tall trees. However, giraffes live in Africa.



Which is your favourite animal? Why do you like it?

# Activity 5 - Build a rainforest

## The Rainforest - how places change

**In this activity pupils cut out, colour and construct their own rainforest.** Each cut-out is a different element of the rainforest, enabling pupils to learn how the different parts of a rainforest fit together. Some of the animals from the quiz can also be added to the rainforest. For higher learners, the KS2 rainforest bank contains activities about deforestation that can work as a follow-on.

### Curriculum links:

#### Geography:

Identify key physical features of the rainforest

#### PSHE:

Living in the wider world, learning about the importance of respecting and protecting the environment

### Starter questions:

Where do you see trees?

What colour are trees?

Are all trees the same size?

### This might help:

Photo 3 in the Rainforest photopack shows the different layers of the rainforest from river up to the tallest trees.



# Activity Sheet - Build your rainforest

Cut out each layer carefully, colour in and stick on the base in the right order.

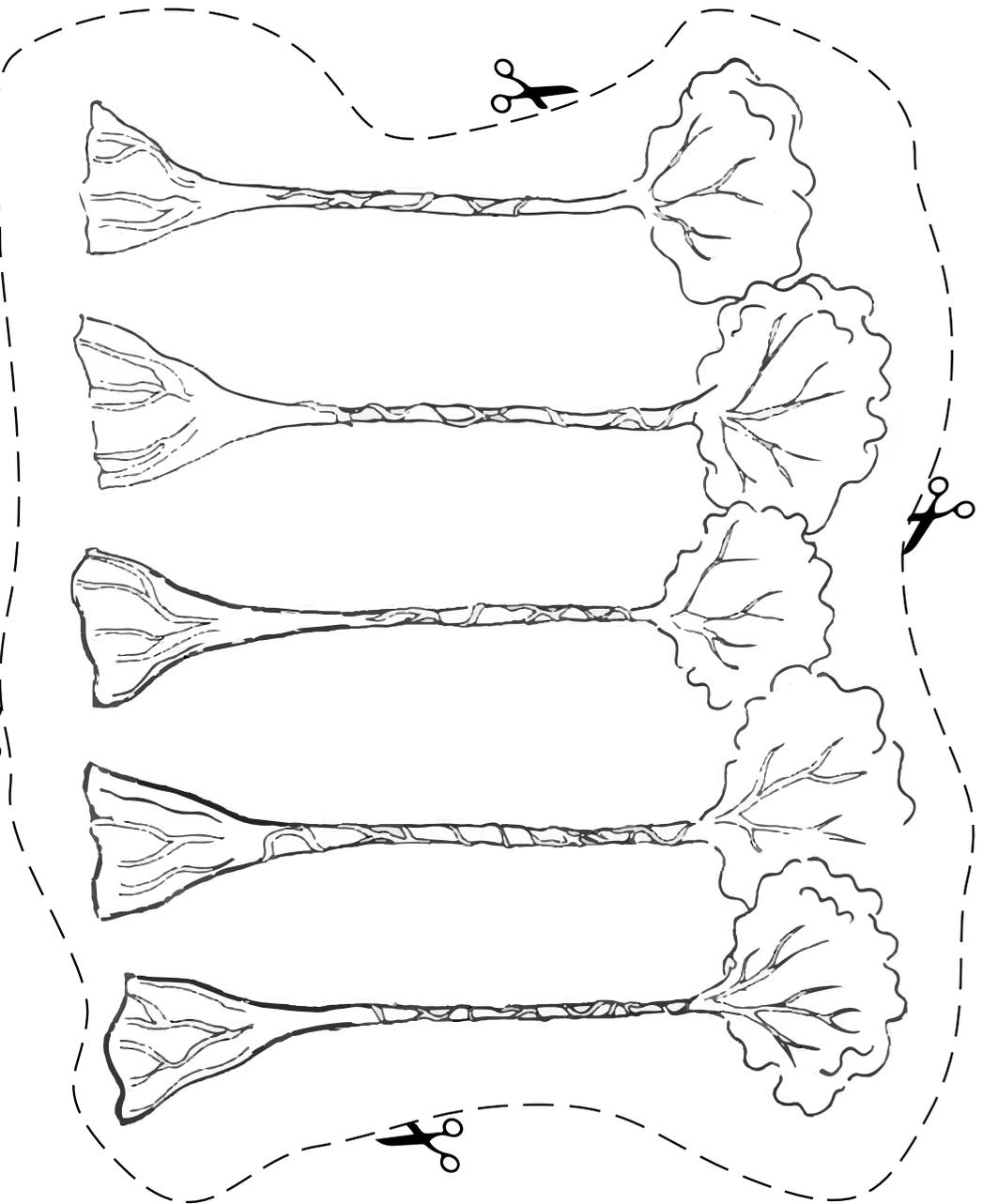
**1** Tallest  
Trees

**2** Canopy

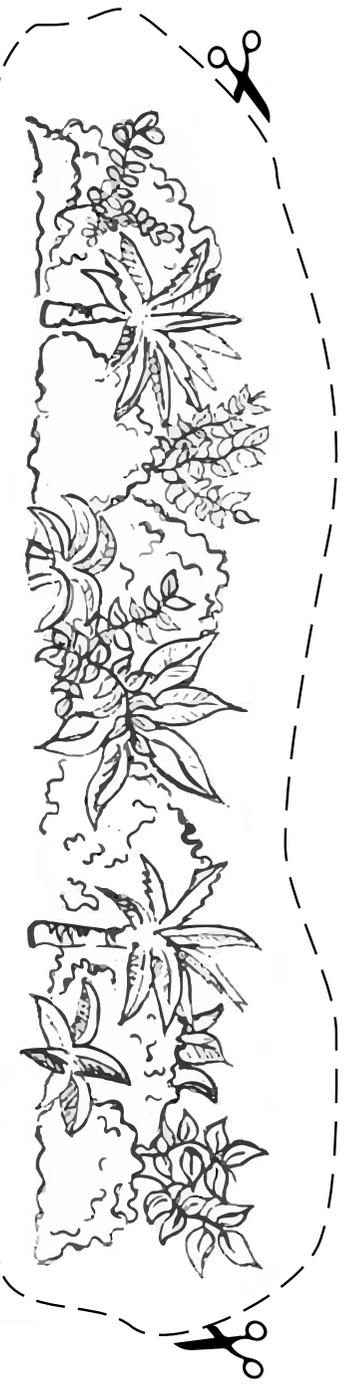
**3** Under  
Canopy

**4** Shrub  
Layer

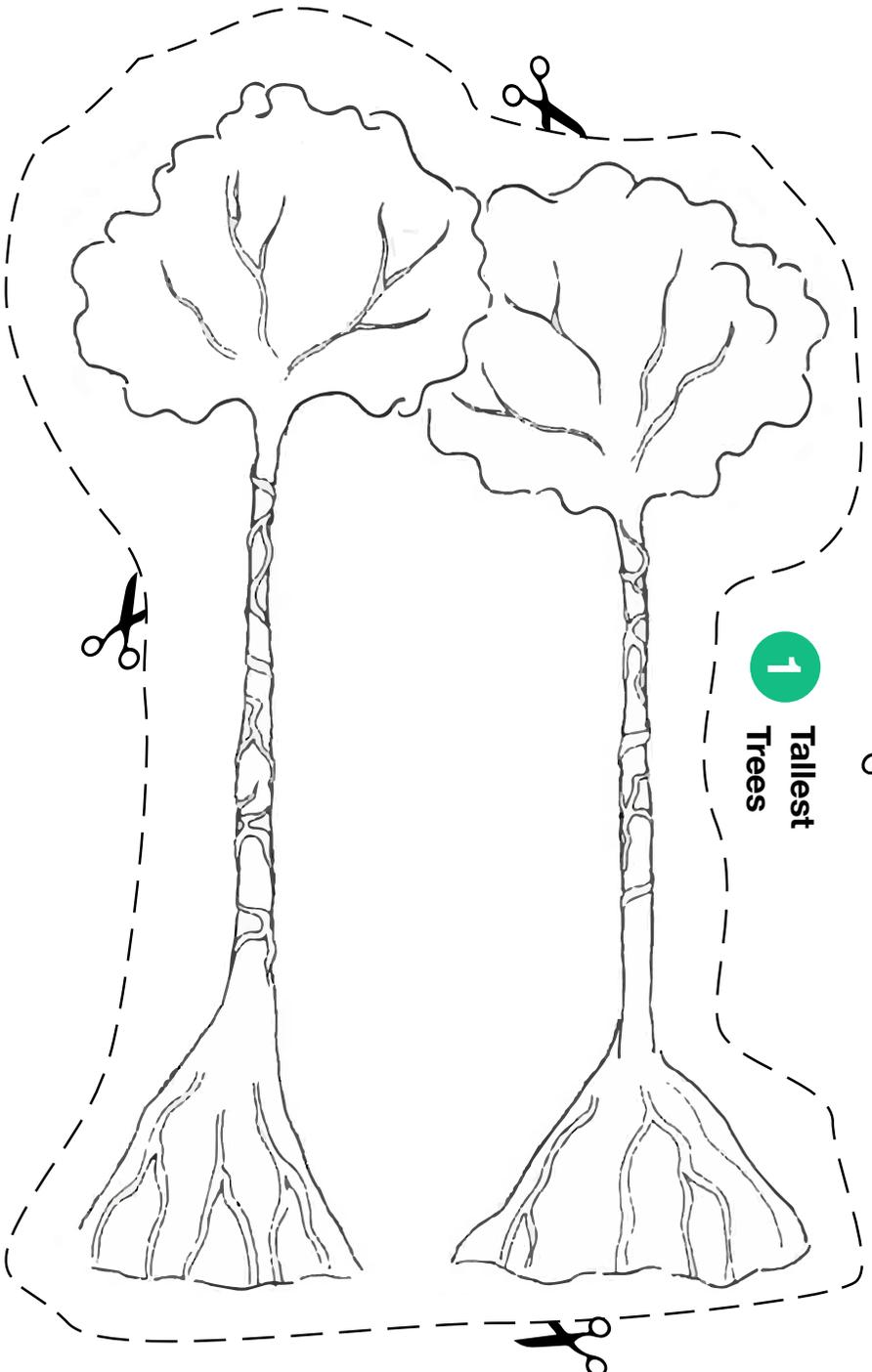
**5** River



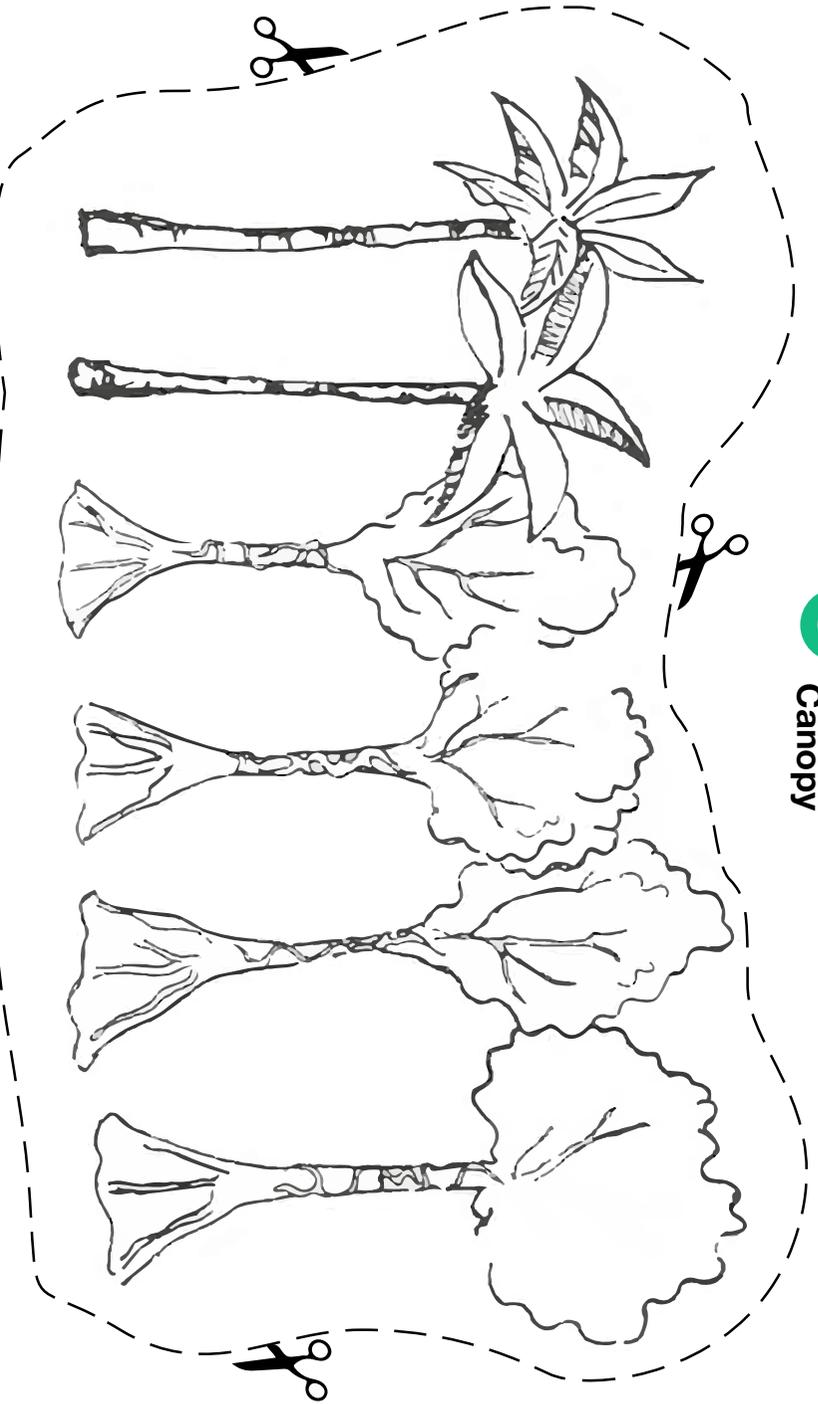
**2** Canopy



**4** Shrub  
Layer

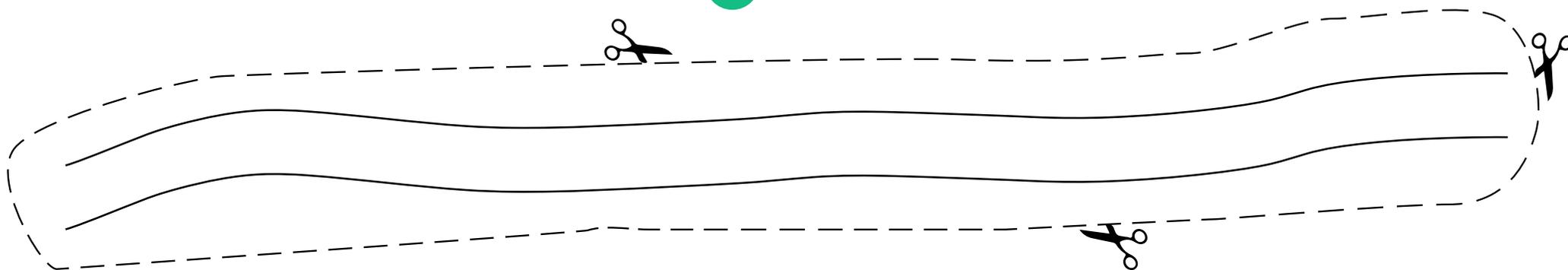


**1** Tallest Trees

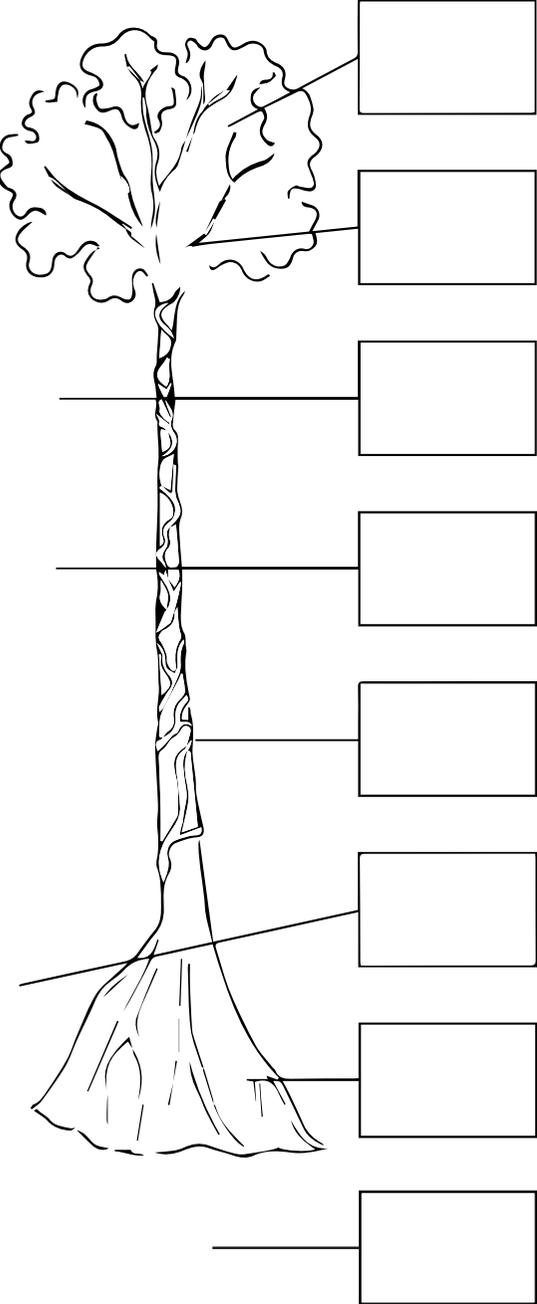
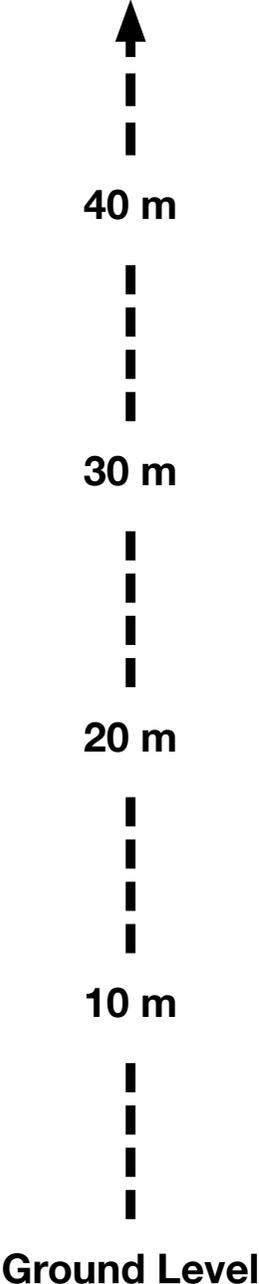


**3** Under Canopy

**5** River



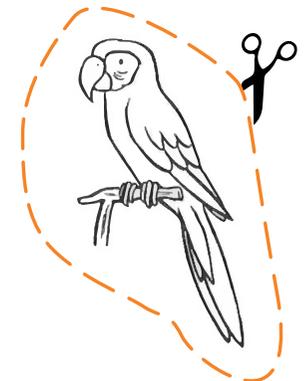
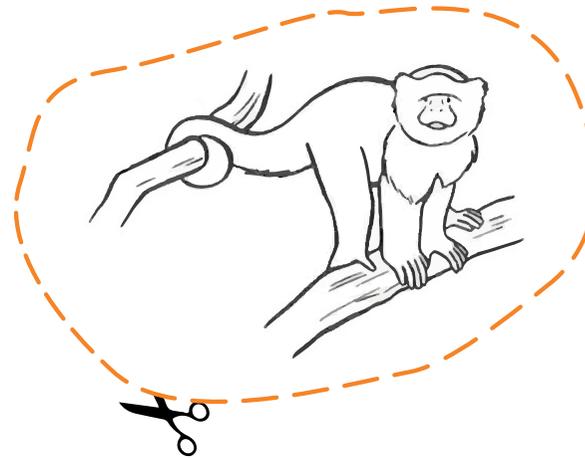
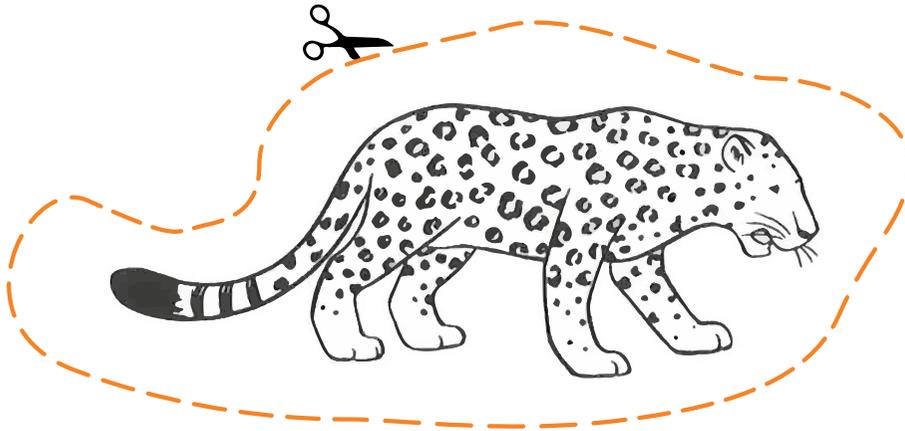
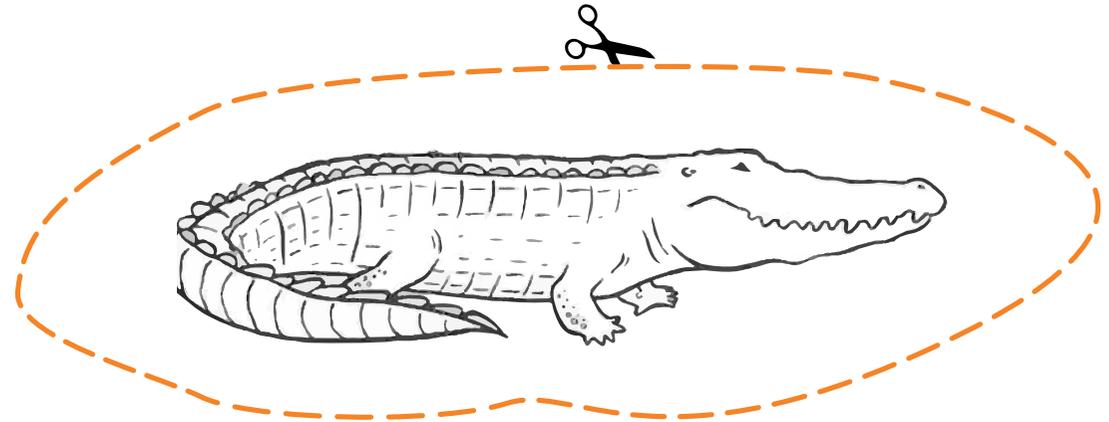
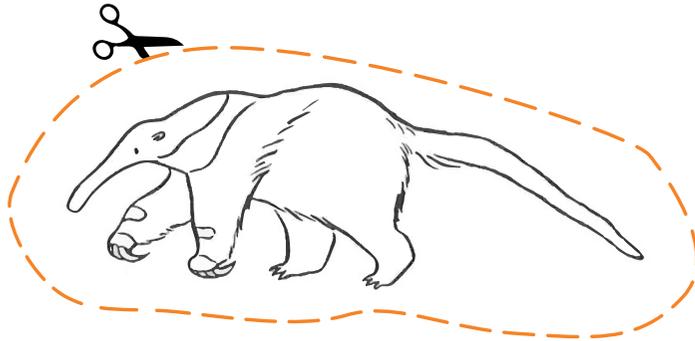
# My rainforest



Stick your cut-outs along here. In the boxes label the river, roots, trunk, branches, leaves, canopy, tallest tree and shrub layers.

# Activity Sheet - Animals in the rainforest

Cut out and colour in the animals below. Put them in your rainforest where you think they would live.



## Activity 6 - Who lives in the rainforest?

### The Rainforest - how places change

**Use this activity to get your pupils thinking about where they live, what they do and where they go each day.** It will encourage pupils to use directional language and develop their map skills.

### Curriculum links:

#### Geography:

Use simple compass directions and locational and directional language to describe the location of features and routes on a map

#### PSHE:

Living in the wider world, learning about different groups and communities

### Starter questions:

Where do you live?

What type of home do you live in?

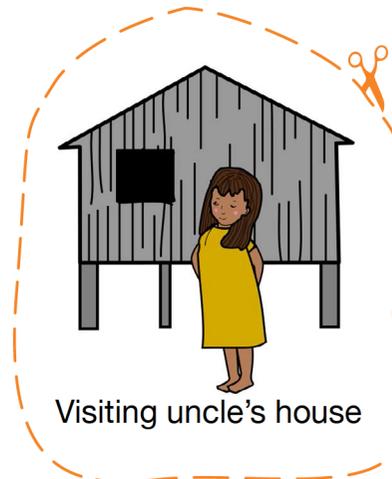
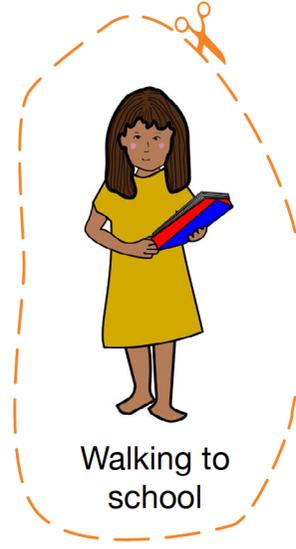
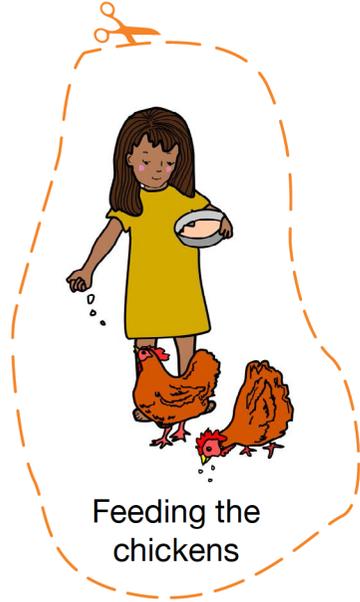
What else is near your home?

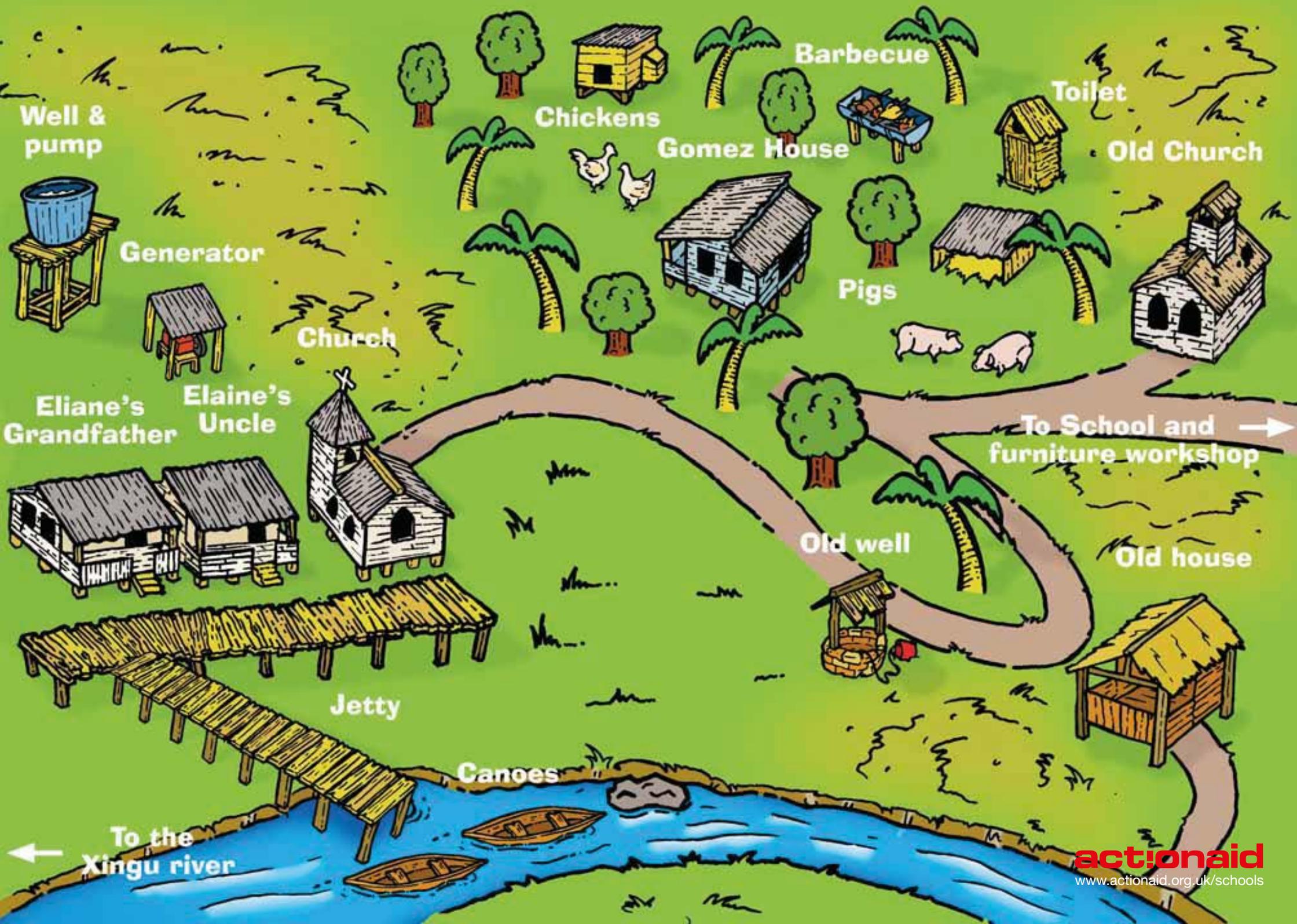
How close do you live to your school?



# Activity Sheet - A day in the rainforest

Elaine lives in the Amazon rainforest with her family. Carefully cut out Elaine's activities and put them in the right places on the map of her village.





Well & pump

Generator

Eliane's Grandfather  
Elaine's Uncle

Church

Jetty

Canoes

To the Xingu river

Chickens

Gomez House

Barbecue

Toilet

Old Church

Pigs

To School and furniture workshop

Old well

Old house

## Activity Sheet - Giving directions

In pairs, give each other instructions on how to move from one location to another on the map. You will need to think about which way they should turn (right, left or straight), how far they should go, and any landmarks to look out for.

Where are you?	Instructions	Where did you get to?
Old house	Turn right. Walk a short distance.	The river.

## Activity Sheet - My map

Now think about where you live. Draw your own map showing your neighbourhood and the places that you go to. Start with your house and draw places nearer to your house first. Try to get things in the right place.



Which of the things on Elaine's map can you find in your neighbourhood? Which things are different?

Same

Different