

Tropical Rain Forest

- Found near the equator
- 250 to 400 cm precipitation yearly



Tropical Rain Forest

- Hot and humid all year
- Temperatures are fairly constant around 25°C ; however range between 20°C (68°F) - 34°C (93°F)
- One constant season



Tropical Rain Forest

- Soil is nutrient poor and acidic
- Most plants have shallow roots
- Broad, waxy leaves



Plants of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Mahogany tree

Notice how the roots rise above the ground to help support this giant tree!



Plants of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Bromeliads



Plants of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Orchids



Plants of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Giant ferns



Plants of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Flowering plants



Plants of the Tropical Rain Forest

A rain forest may contain more than 700 species of trees and over 1000 species of flowering plants.

Tropical Rainforest Plant Adaptations

- drip tips and waxy surfaces allow water to run off, to discourage growth of bacteria and fungi
- long or large (broad leaves) to capture sunlight in lower layers
- buttresses and prop and stilt roots help hold up plants in the shallow soil
- some plants climb on others to reach the sunlight
- some plants grow on other plants to reach the sunlight
- smooth bark and smooth or waxy flowers speed the run off of water
- plants have shallow roots to help capture nutrients from the top level of soil.
- many bromeliads are epiphytes (plants that live on other plants); instead of collecting water with roots they collect rainwater into a central reservoir from which they absorb the water through hairs on their leaves
- epiphytic orchids have aerial roots that cling to the host plant, absorb minerals, and absorb water from the atmosphere

<http://www.mbgnet.net/bioplants/>

Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

• Monkeys



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Exotic birds

Toucan



Parrots



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Exotic birds

Cockatoo



Hummingbird



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Snakes (Anaconda)



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Snakes

Albino Ball Python



Green Mamba



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Sloths



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Bat (Fruit bat)



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Insects

Butterfly



Beetle



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Large Cats (Jaguar)



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Large Cats (Sumatran Tiger)



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Large Cat (Ocelot)



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Exotic mammals

Paca



Peccary



(AP)

Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

- Exotic mammals

Agouti



Nutria



Animals of the Tropical Rain Forest

Tropical Rainforest Animal Adaptation Facts

- Many animals of the rainforest are camouflaged which aids them in avoiding predators
- Other animals use camouflage to hide in wait for prey
- One adaptation quite the opposite of camouflage is that of the brightly colored poison arrow frogs and poison dart frogs. The bright colors of these species serve as a warning to predators not to eat them.
- Some animals have adaptations that enable them to eat food that other animals can't. For example parrots have strong beaks that crack the shells of very hard nuts.
- Some have specialized adaptations for living in very little sunlight on the forest floor.