

TROPICAL RAINFORESTS

Year 5 Geography
Plant Adaptations

Poppy

Description

The Kapok tree is also known as ceiba tree. It is a tropical tree. It is at the Emergent of the Rainforests. That means they get the most energy from the sunlight and are the strongest trees. They trunk can be up to 9 to 10 feet in diameter. The Kapok tree has an umbrella-shaped crown. The tree has a fruit which is a light green woody colored and is filled with over 200 brown seeds.

Where they live

The Kapok tree lives in the Rainforests. They can be found in central and South America but can also be found in West Africa and Southeast Asia today.

How they Adapted to the TRP

They use the wind because they are tall enough to reach the breezes above the rainforest. They also benefit the ecosystem. Plants that are dependent on sunlight can grow on the tree. They also have big spines to protect them from damage.

Key Statistics

The Kapok tree reach up to 230 feet in height. They usually grow 13 feet every year!!! They produce creamy white and pink flowers in small clusters on the new, young branches. The tree provides food and shelter for many animals like: monkey, birds, frogs and insects.

Did you know?


The Kapok tree produces something called Kapok. We use Kapok for stuffing pillows.

Did you know?

The Kapok tree leaves are most eaten by Monkeys.

The Kapok Tree is the most endangered because it holds the most natural fibers we could ever use.

All About The Kapok Tree


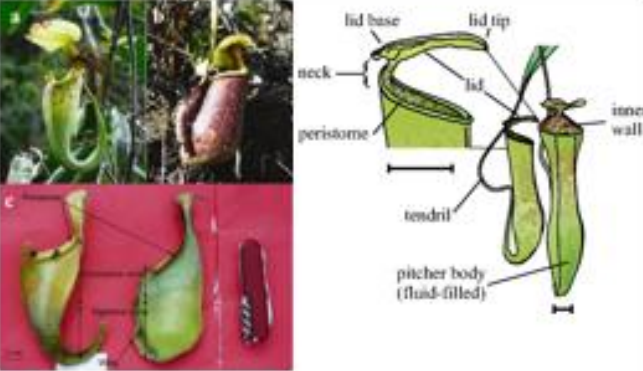


Lily

My Plant Research: Tropical Rainforest Plants

Nepenthes- by Lily CB



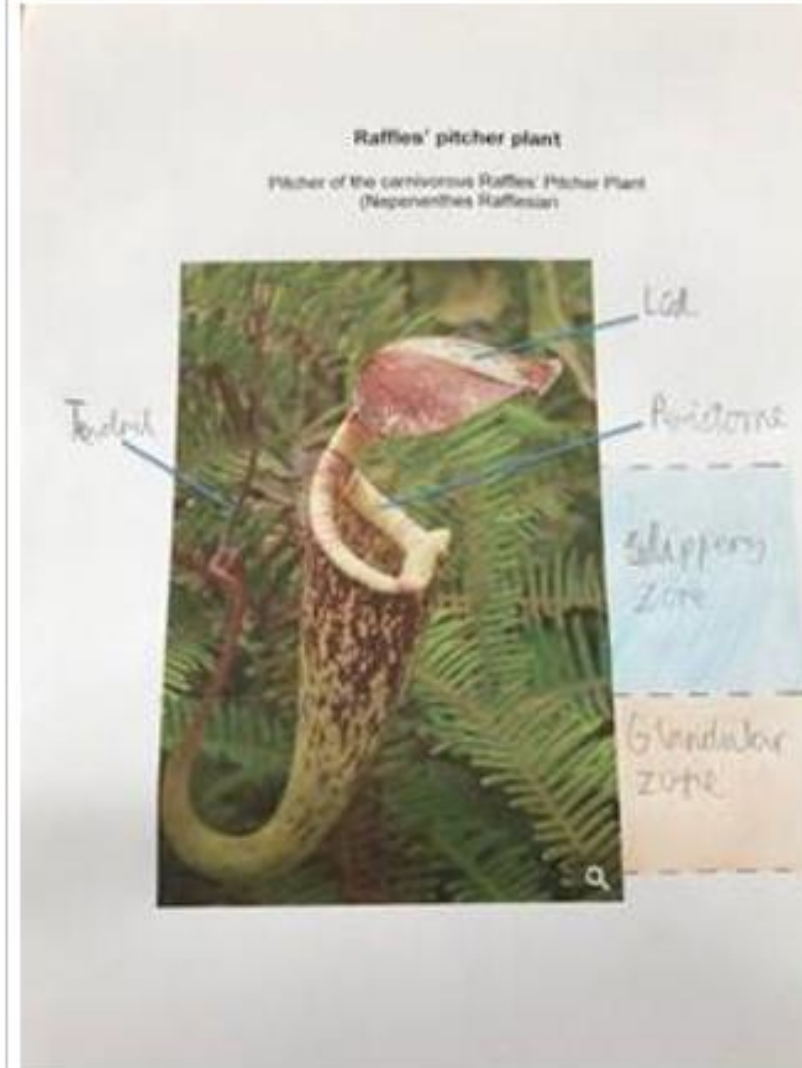
Name of plant	<p>'Nepenthes', also called 'Tropical Pitcher Plant' or 'Monkey cup', because some young monkeys and orangutans drink water from them.</p> 
Careful drawing of plant or a copied labelled picture from the website	
Description of the plant	<p>Nepenthes are carnivorous plants which gets their nutrients from digesting insects, rodents and frogs. Pitcher plants have modified their leaves into the shape a pitcher or jug. The underside of the lid creates a sweet nectar which attracts the insects and small animals. When they land on or crawl up to the mouth (edge) of the plant, they slide straight down into the liquid at the bottom and cannot crawl back out because the walls are smooth, slippery and have hairs pointing downwards. Although you would think the flies could just fly out, the liquid also sticks onto the fly's wings making it harder for them to escape. The liquid is like a stomach and breaks down the insects and small animals into a kind of soup of nutrients which feeds the plant.</p>

Kaspar's super diagram

Name of plant

The Pitcher Plant
Nepenthes Rafflesian
The Pitcher plant is a carnivorous plant.



Careful drawing of plant or a copied labelled picture from the website



Rose

My Plant Research – Kapok tree

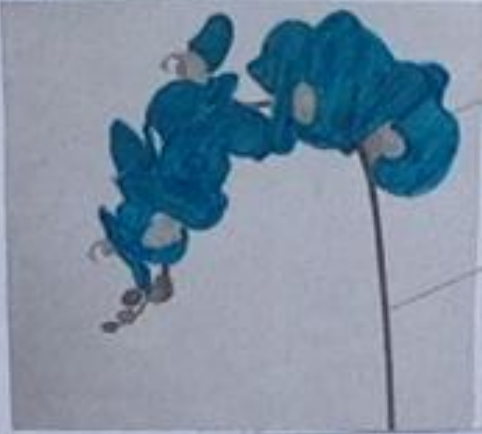
The table below will provide lots of information about the Kapok tree, which is my chosen Rainforest plant.

Name of plant	THE KAPOK TREE
Copied images of the Kapok tree	 
Description of the Kapok tree	<p>The rainforest alliance website says that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o The kapok tree is deciduous, shedding all of its leaves during the dry season.o The kapok tree is very tall. It can grow up to 4 meters in height per year, and can grow up to 61meters in height when fully grown.o Some varieties have spines or conical thorns.o The trunk can be very wide.o The trunk has a number of nooks and grooves where different animals live, including frogs and birds.o It has white and pink flowers.o The tree emits a foul smell! This attracts bats. <p>From the pictures my description would be that the Kapok tree looks beautiful and tall. It appears to have a number of different shaped branches, the trunk looks bare until near the top quarter where the main leaves and branches are.</p>
Where does the Kapok tree live?	<p>The Kapok tree lives in tropical rainforests, and can be found in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Mexicoo Central Americao South Americao West Africao Central Africa


Letty

Year 5 Ecosystems Research Plants in the Tropical Rainforest



Name of plant	Orchids
Careful drawing of plant/ or a copied and labelled picture from website.	
Description of the plant	An Orchid is star-shaped, unlike many flowers, and it can come in many different colours (e.g. blue, white, purple or pink).
Where it lives (which countries or forests)	You can find many orchids in the tropical rainforest, mostly on the canopy layer and the emergent layer.
Key statistics (eg. size)	An orchid's leaves are about 8-12 inches long, but its flowers (petals) are usually 3-5 inches across.
How it is adapted to the TRF	Orchids adapt well to the rainforest because they have roots with a large surface area to absorb nutrients and water rapidly.
Any other interesting information	An orchid can hold up to three million seeds in a single orchid seedpod, because an orchid's seeds are as small as a speck of dust, so you will only be able to see one under a microscope.


Sophie

Name of plant	Philippines Jade Vine Its scientific name is <u>Strongylodon macrobotrys</u> Its local name is <u>Tayabak</u> .
Careful drawing of plant/ or a copied and labelled picture from website.	 <p>Big leaves</p> <p>The hook</p> <p>The flowers</p>
Description of the plant	Philippines Jade Vine is a member of the pea and bean family. It is a vigorous evergreen plant that climbs to a height of 20 metres. The flowers are 8cm long and are a brilliant turquoise colour. Enormous, metre-long spikes hang from the plant and are covered in the turquoise petals. The bright petals attract tropical bats who pollinate them.
Where it lives (which countries or forests)	As the name suggests, the plant is from the Philippines which is in Asia. You will find it in the canopy layer of Tropical Rainforests. The canopy layer is 30 metres from the ground level.
Key statistics (eg. size)	The size of the Philippines Jade <u>Vine's stem</u> grows up to 18 metres.
How it is adapted to the TRF	The Philippines Jade Vine has adapted to the environment by climbing up into the canopy so they can get sunlight. The vines grow best when the roots are in the shade. The leaves are 10-15cm long and so they can absorb lots of sunlight.
Any other interesting information	The Philippines Jade Vine has lots of different names some of them are 'turquoise jade vines', 'emerald creepers', 'blue jade vines', and 'emerald vines.'

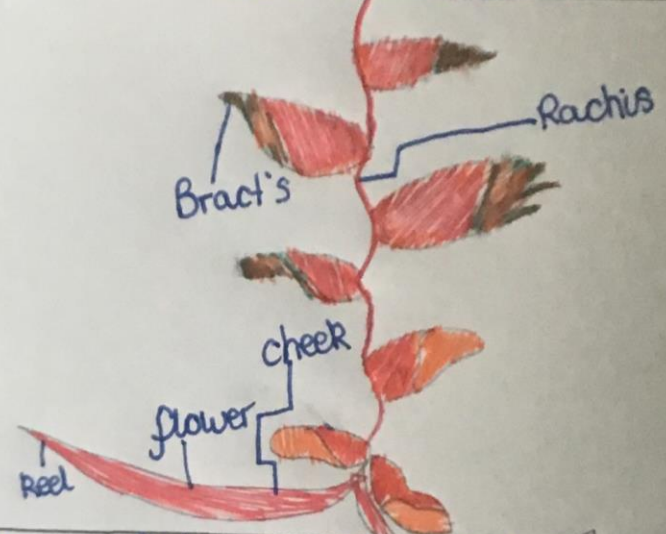
Ross

Year 5 Ecosystems Research Plants in the Tropical Rainforest



Name of plant	Bromeliad
Careful drawing of plant/ or a copied and labelled picture from website.	
Description of the plant	A bromeliad is a tropical plant with long, curved leaves that lives on the branches and trunks of rainforest trees.
Where it lives (which countries or forests)	Tropical Americas, American subtropics, Tropical West Africa.
Key statistics (eg: size)	3590 known species. Tallest - 3-4m tall with a flower spike of 4-10 metres tall.
How it is adapted to the TRF	The leaves collect water by forming a bowl shape, animals drink from this.
Any other interesting information	They are part of the pineapple family. The largest bromeliad can in its bowl collect up to 2 gallons of water. They can absorb nutrients through special leaf pores that other plants don't have.

Anna

Name of plant	Heliconia flower (lobster-claw)
Careful drawing of plant/ or a copied and labelled picture from website.	 <p>A hand-drawn illustration of a Heliconia flower (lobster-claw) with labels: Rachis, Bract's, flower, cheek, and Reel.</p>
Description of the plant	A beautiful amazonian flora. (Known as a hanging lobster claw). This plant requires humid conditions to grow. Hummingbirds rely on the heliconia flower for food and nesting.
Where it lives (which countries or forests)	The heliconia flower grows in the Amazon Jungle (rainforest.)
Key statistics (eg: size)	The height of this plant may grow up to 4.6m in nature. It's flowers may be coloured red, yellow or orange.
How it is adapted to the TRF	It is adapted to the TRF because it likes humid weather and it is a big pollinator of the plant.
Any other interesting information	It hangs from the trees and is very beautiful. It varies in shape.