

*Rain Forests (Nat Geo Kids: Explore Our World)*

**Discussion Guide**

Grades: Pre-K – 1<sup>st</sup>

**Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.**

- Preview with the students the cover & title of the book. Ask what the students already know about rain forests.
- Preview vocabulary/terms, including: rain forests, forest floor, understory, canopy, emergent layer, tropical, thunderstorm, rainbows
- Ask: Why is conservation of the rainforest important? (Optional: Think, Pair, Share)

**During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.**

On chart paper, list:

- 5-7 animals who live in rain forests
- 3-5 fruits or vegetables that grow in rain forests
- The layers of a rain forest

**After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.**

- Ask: What conditions are needed for a rain forest?
- Describe some of the weather elements that exist in a rain forest.
- **Extension:** Draw an illustration of a rain forest. Label the parts of the rain forest. Include several animals that live in a rain forest environment. Label the animals.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.