

## Central America Activities: Remarkable Rain Forests

### Research and Art (Standards 3, 7, 8, and 14)

**Activity 1.** The rain forests of Central America have four levels. They are the emergent layer, canopy, forest floor, and understory. If you can define *emergent*, *canopy*, *floor* and *understory*, you'll know where each layer is situated, from top to bottom. Now, try to draw a picture of the rain forest showing each layer.

**Activity 2.** Most of the trees of the rain forest are broadleaf and evergreen, but they belong to many different species. Many trees are associated with particular places in the world. What countries or areas of the world do you associate with the following trees? If some are unfamiliar, research them in an encyclopedia. In some cases, there is more than one correct answer.

1. Kapok
2. Joshua
3. Giant Sequoia
4. Banyon
5. Saguaro
6. Eucalyptus
7. Baobab
8. Palm
9. Traveler's Tree
10. Redwood

## Activity: Did You Ever See a Poem Lovely as a Tree?

### Fluency: Trees around the World (Standards 12–16)

List as many kinds of trees as you can think of.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Did you list the Ginkgo?

Enumerate all the ways that people use trees.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Did you remember they serve as Christmas trees?

What is the most unusual use for a tree that you found?

Did you think of the fact that a tree can be the inspiration for a poem? Find Joyce Kilmer's poem, "Trees." Memorize it.

List some of the products people get from trees.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Did you include acids?