**teachers guide**

**Amazon 1:**

**The Amazon rainforest**

# Components

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | NAME | DESCRIPTION | AUDIENCE |
|  | *The Amazon rainforest*teacher guide | This guide suggests ways to use the video, *Ecology of the Amazon rainforest*. | teachers |
|  | *Ecology of the Amazon rainforest*video | This video provides students with an overview of one of the world’s major biomes, the Amazon rainforest. It presents a visual journey of aspects of the rainforest with information on abiotic and biotic factors and components of the forest. | students |
|  | *Factors affecting ecosystems*worksheet | This worksheet contains questions to be answered after viewing the videoclip. | students |

Purpose

To use a video of interesting animals and plants from the Amazon rainforest to illustrate abiotic and biotic components of this ecosystem.

# Activity summary

Outcomes

Students:

* describe some abiotic and biotic factors within an ecosystem, and
* appreciate a major ecosystem (biome) of the world.

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| --- | --- |
| ACTIVITY | POSSIBLE STRATEGY |
| Show the video, *Ecology of the Amazon rainforest*. | discuss aspects of an ecosystem, including abiotic and biotic factors |
| Students complete worksheet, *Factors affecting ecosystems*, as they view video. | provide worksheet |
| Discuss student answers. | class or small-group discussions |

# Technical requirements

The video, *Ecology of the Amazon rainforest,* may be viewed in any modern browser.

The teacher guide and worksheet require Adobe Reader (version 5 or later), which is a free download from [www.adobe.com.](http://www.adobe.com/) The worksheet is also provided in Microsoft Word format.

# Using the video

Show the video *Ecology of the Amazon rainforest* and discuss it with students to explore the abiotic and biotic components of the ecosystem.

Student discussion following the video can be teacher-led as a whole group discussion, or in small groups using strategies such as Think, Pair, Share. Suitable discussion questions include:

* Does the large rainfall amount affect the forest?
* Does the height of rainforest trees affect aspects of the non-living environment?
* Why is the biomass of the rainforest floor so large?
* Why is biodiversity and biomass so high in this ecosystem?

# Associated SPICE resources

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| DESCRIPTION |
| *Amazon 1: The Amazon rainforest*A video provides an overview of one of the world’s major biomes, the Amazon rainforest. It presents a visual journey of aspects of the rainforest with information on abiotic and biotic factors and components of the forest. |
| *Amazon 2: Humans and the Amazon*A video provides an overview of some impacts of humans on the Amazon rainforest ecosystem. |

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