Living in the Rainforest

Heather Hammonds



Flying Colours

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Chapter 1

Tropical Rainforests

Tropical rainforests grow in some parts of the world where it is very warm.

Many kinds of plants grow in tropical rainforests. There are tall trees and long **vines**. There are lots of beautiful flowers too.



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Thousands of animals live in the rainforests. Some animals look very colourful.

Some animals look very scary!



blue morpho butterfly



bird-eating spider

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Chapter 2

From Top to Bottom

A tropical rainforest is made up of different layers.

Some animals stay in one layer of the rainforest.



Some animals move through all layers of the rainforest.



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Layers of the Rainforest

There are several layers in the rainforest. The top layer of the rainforest is called the **emergent** layer. The middle layers are called the **canopy** and the **understorey**. The bottom layer is called the **floor**.



Emergent – the tops of the tallest trees in the rainforest.

Canopy – the green leaves and tops of most trees in the rainforest.

Understorey – tree trunks, smaller trees, vines and bushes in the rainforest.

Floor – the rainforest ground.

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Chapter 3

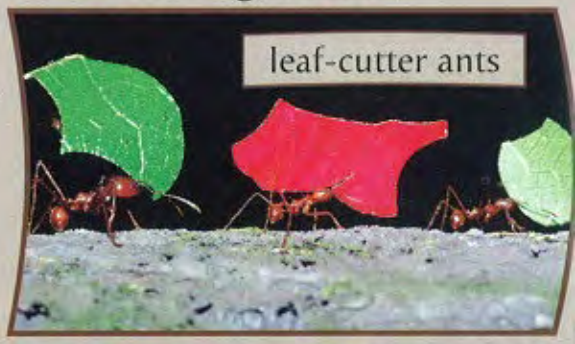
On the Ground

Very little sunlight reaches the ground in the rainforest. The big trees block out the sun.



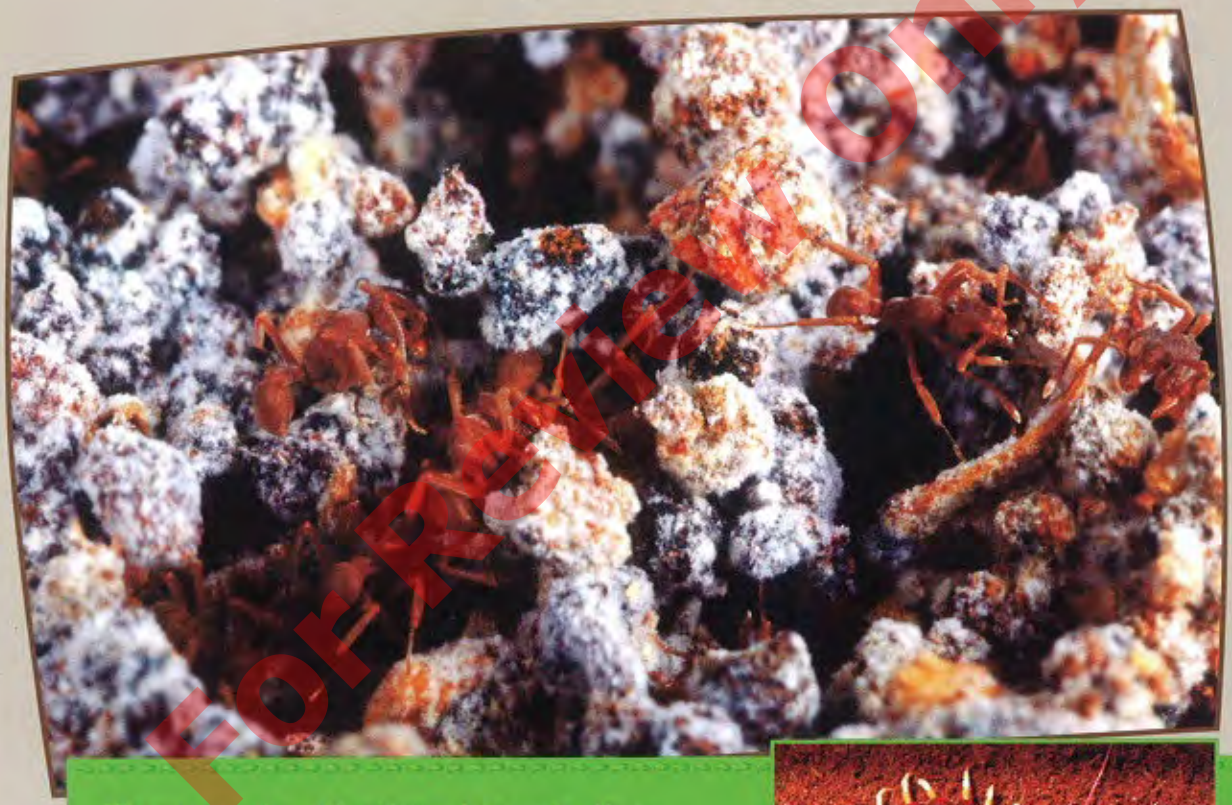
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These ants make a huge nest under the ground. They climb into the trees and collect leaves. Then they take the leaves to their nest.



The ants do not eat the leaves. They keep them in their nest.

A special **fungus** grows on the leaves inside the nest. Then the ants eat the fungus.



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Thousands of other insects live on the rainforest floor.

This giant centipede makes its home under old leaves and wood.

