**Chapter 12-13 plant adaptations**

**Plants in tropical rainforests are well adapted to heat, humidity and excessive rain.**

**Plant adaptation refers to the different manner in which plants adapt or accommodate themselves into their natural environment.**

**Water Plants**

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**Taiga Plants**

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**Tropical Rainforest Plants**

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**Desert Plants**

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**Chapter 11 Rainforests**

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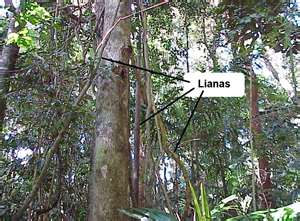
**Adaptations for rainforests**

**Plants need special adaptations to live successfully in the rainforest. The soil contains few nutrients, and the nutrients it does contain are concentrated on the soil surface. The warm, humid environment encourages the growth of mold that can harm the plants, and the vegetation in the upper canopy levels is so thick that the forest floor is almost completely shaded. Trees and other plants have evolved special features that allow them to survive in these conditions.**

**Bark**

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**Lianas**

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**Leaves**

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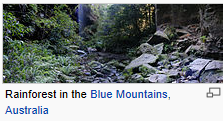
**Roots**

[](http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A0PDoS4s7GhQl30ACqWJzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBlMTQ4cGxyBHNlYwNzcgRzbGsDaW1n?back=http://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images?p=rainforest+roots+pictures&n=30&ei=utf-8&y=Search&fr=yfp-t-701&tab=organic&ri=4&w=530&h=346&imgurl=www.sciencephoto.com/image/176941/large/E6400742-Buttress_roots_of_a_rainforest_tree-SPL.jpg&rurl=http://www.sciencephoto.com/media/176941/enlarge&size=102.7+KB&name=Buttress+roots+of+a+rainforest+tree&p=rainforest+roots+pictures&oid=6660f597489c71de7b3b6611124ac8f4&fr2=&fr=yfp-t-701&tt=Buttress+roots+of+a+rainforest+tree&b=0&ni=96&no=4&ts=&tab=organic&sigr=11g5l92f4&sigb=13t0nic22&sigi=12si4d4qa&.crumb=8rH9s6pvglu)  [](http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A0PDoS4s7GhQl30ADaWJzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBlMTQ4cGxyBHNlYwNzcgRzbGsDaW1n?back=http://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images?p=rainforest+roots+pictures&n=30&ei=utf-8&y=Search&fr=yfp-t-701&tab=organic&ri=7&w=369&h=400&imgurl=www.usefilm.com/images/4/4/7/447/114461-medium.jpg&rurl=http://www.usefilm.com/image/114461.html&size=73.4+KB&name=Pictures+of+Rainforest+Tree+Roots+-+Canon+G3+Camera&p=rainforest+roots+pictures&oid=28d78aa86884197d150556419f4a6a4c&fr2=&fr=yfp-t-701&tt=Pictures+of+Rainforest+Tree+Roots+-+Canon+G3+Camera&b=0&ni=96&no=7&ts=&tab=organic&sigr=1186o59uo&sigb=13t5d8m8o&sigi=11i9n5ao5&.crumb=8rH9s6pvglu)

**Parts of the rainforest**

**Tropical rain forests contain most of the plant species on Earth. As their name indicates, rain forests are wet and have high humidity. So many different kinds of plants thrive there because of the warmth of the tropics and the plentiful rain. Explaining the plant diversity of tropical rain forests for kids is easy when you split the numerous plants in to groups. Start at the floor of the rain forest and work your way up to the top layer.**

**The Forest Floor**



**The Canopy Layer**



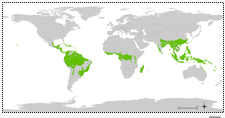
**The Top Layer**

[](http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A0PDoKn27GhQn2gAu.WJzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBlMTQ4cGxyBHNlYwNzcgRzbGsDaW1n?back=http://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images?p=soil+layer+rainforest+pictures&n=30&ei=utf-8&y=Search&fr=yfp-t-701&tab=organic&ri=79&w=1329&h=864&imgurl=2.bp.blogspot.com/_OWCjkliV23I/TT_yGE89UgI/AAAAAAAAAGA/SY7ufoU3FAU/s1600/tropical-rainforest.jpg&rurl=http://jolynn-geography.blogspot.com/2011_01_01_archive.html&size=221.2+KB&name=...+is+little+wind+blowing+in+the+forest+due+to+its+density+of+plants&p=soil+layer+rainforest+pictures&oid=27d3e985aaf7f5492ca8f207d08467f5&fr2=&fr=yfp-t-701&tt=...+is+little+wind+blowing+in+the+forest+due+to+its+density+of+plants&b=61&ni=96&no=79&ts=&tab=organic&sigr=11s21ffkr&sigb=143ql659a&sigi=130k9dtir&.crumb=8rH9s6pvglu)

**Familiar Food**

**Kids can understand the plants of the rain forest by visiting the fruit section of the local grocery store. Some foods kids can find in the grocery store are pineapples, bananas, grapefruit, avocado and coconuts. All of these fruits are from plants of the tropical rain forest. In the spice section of the grocery store kids can see ginger, paprika, pepper, cinnamon, nutmeg, vanilla and chocolate. These spices all come from plants from the rain forest**

**Tropical rainforests**



**characterized in two words: warm and wet. Mean monthly temperatures exceed 18 °C (64 °F) during all months of the year.[4] Average annual rainfall is no less than 168 cm (66 in) and can exceed 1,000 cm (390 in) although it typically lies between 175 cm (69 in) and 200 cm (79 in).**

**Temperate Rainforests**



**Temperate forests cover a large part of the globe, but temperate rainforests only occur in few regions around the world. Temperate rainforests are rainforests in temperate regions. They occur in North America**