

RAIN BIRD RAIN FOREST TEACHING CURRICULUM FAQ

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RAIN BIRD RAIN FOREST TEACHING CURRICULUM FEATURES “I CAN RELATE TO THAT” SCIENCE LEARNING TOOLS FOR TEACHERS, STUDENTS, PARENTS

WHAT IS IT?

Rain Bird's Tropical Rain Forest Teaching Curriculum is an on-line educational tool for teachers providing specific lesson plans and related course work for kindergarteners through high school seniors. It is easily available at <http://www.rainbird.com>.

WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE?

To teach natural history, ecology, biology, physics and chemistry through demonstrations, experiments and classroom activities. Rain Bird and California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly Pomona) designed the program content, which focuses on endangered tropical rain forests in Latin America, Africa and Southeast Asia as the basis for teaching science through fun, hands-on activities children already do and like – art projects, outdoor activities and classroom demonstrations. The site motivates kids to think about the part each they play – or the actions they can take -- in preserving and protecting the environment.

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WHO SHOULD USE IT?

Teachers and parents. Teachers who are seeking a new, fun and engaging resource to teach children about science. Parents who are looking for a friendly, and educational way to “bring science home.”

**IS THE INFORMATION
EASY TO USE?**

Yes. The information is well-organized and self-explanatory. The curriculum is arranged with grade-appropriate material (K-1, 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, 4-5, 6, 7, 8, and 9-12). As appropriate, each grade level contains projects that integrate science with art; data gathering, observation, and inference; analysis of physical matter; in-class demonstrations to be performed by teachers for students; and at-home projects that illustrate scientific principles in a manner both understandable by and meaningful to school-age children.

**WHY THE
FOCUS ON RAIN FORESTS?**

Rain Bird has always supported and educated its consumers on the importance of The Intelligent Use of Water™. The curriculum ties into this philosophy because rain forests provide oxygen and consume carbon dioxide, playing a pivotal role in the climate control of our planet. This affects wind, rainfall, humidity and temperatures worldwide. Rain Bird is deeply concerned about the environment and has always promoted stewardship of Earth’s resources, of which water is among the most precious.

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Some 30 million species of plants and animals – a majority of all things living on Earth – exist interdependently in tropical rain forests. In addition, rain forests also are rich with plants vital in creating modern medicines.

**WHAT HAS THE RESPONSE TO
THE CURRICULUM BEEN?**

Thousands of online visitors each month learn about the important role tropical rain forests play in the world. And, because the information was so well-received, Rain Bird expanded its commitment to university-level education through its partnership with California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. In 2002, three Rain Bird Learning Centers were unveiled at Cal Poly Pomona's BioTrek Project, located on the Cal Poly campus.

ABOUT RAIN BIRD:

Based in Glendora, Calif., Rain Bird Corporation is the leading manufacturer and provider of irrigation products and services. Since its beginnings in 1933, Rain Bird has offered the industry's broadest range of irrigation products for farms, golf courses, sports arenas, commercial developments and homes in more than 130 countries around the world. Rain Bird has been awarded more than 130 patents, including the first in 1935 for the impact sprinkler. Rain Bird and The Intelligent Use of Water™ is about using water wisely. Its commitment extends beyond products to education, training and services for the industry and the community. Rain Bird maintains state-of-the-art manufacturing assembly facilities in the United States, France, Sweden and Mexico <http://www.rainbird.com>.

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