



# #9578

## FOREST FAMILY FOREVER!

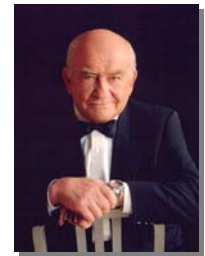
ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIA CORPORATION, 2001

Grade Levels: 2-6

14 minutes

### DESCRIPTION

1000-year-old Grandfather Tree shares his knowledge about rainforests' plant and animal life, destruction, and importance to world ecology. Voice of Ed Asner.



### ACADEMIC STANDARDS

#### Subject Area: Geography Environment and Society

- ★ Standard: Understands how human actions modify the physical environment
  - Benchmark: Understands the environmental consequences of people changing the physical environment (e.g., the effects of ozone depletion, climate change, deforestation, land degradation, soil salinization and acidification, ocean pollution, groundwater-quality decline, using natural wetlands for recreational and housing development) (See Instructional Goal #1.)
- ★ Standard: Understands how physical systems affect human systems
  - Benchmark: Knows changes in the physical environment that have reduced the capacity of the environment to support human activity (e.g., the drought-plagued Sahel, the depleted rain forests of central Africa, the Great Plains Dust Bowl, the impact of the economic exploitation of Siberia's resources on a fragile sub-Arctic environment) (See Instructional Goal #2.)

### INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To depict the environmental consequences of people changing the rainforests.
2. To show how exploitation of the rain forest will reduce the needed products from the rainforests for sustaining human life and natural diversity.

### VOCABULARY

1. photosynthesis
2. ancient
3. timber
4. sapling
5. indigenous people
6. agricultural
7. destruction



## BEFORE SHOWING

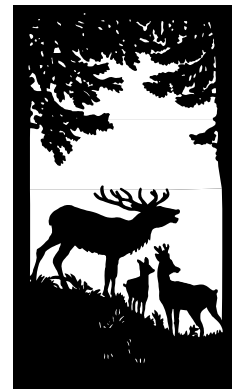
1. Locate on a map of the world places where rainforests are located.
  - a. For temperate rainforests consider Canada, Chile, New Zealand, and parts of the United States.
  - b. For tropical rainforests consider South America, Africa, and Southeast Asia.
2. List reasons why the rainforests are important to save.



## AFTER SHOWING

### ► Discussion Items and Questions

1. Why are there less rainforests today?
2. What is the difference between temperate and tropical rainforests?
3. How many of the world's animals live in rainforests? What are some of these animals?
4. How can rainforests help people who are sick? How much modern medicine comes from rainforests?
5. What are some foods that originally came from rainforests?
6. What would happen to the earth if there were no more rainforest trees?
7. What kinds of wood and paper products come from trees? What can people do to help reduce this? How does kenaf help?
8. How does the production of oil and cheap, fast-food beef reduce the rainforests? What can people do to help?



### ► Applications and Activities

1. Consider ways to reduce personal and school use of rainforest products. Ask school and family members to participate. Create posters to encourage participation.
  - a. Use all paper before recycling.
  - b. Investigate purchasing 100% post-consumer recycled paper or 100% tree-free paper.
  - c. Brainstorm alternatives to usage of paper napkins, paper grocery bags, paper plates, and paper cups.
  - d. Avoid buying wood from endangered trees including mahogany, teak, ebony, rosewood, and zebrawood.
  - e. Research local home builders who use less wood to build homes. Consider adobe and straw bale homes.
  - f. Encourage alternative transportation. Consider walking, riding bikes, carpooling, and using public transportation. Investigate alternative fuel vehicles.
  - g. Use solar power. Consider hanging laundry out to dry instead of using a dryer. Investigate solar energy for powering homes and warming water for showers.
  - h. Use less plastic; instead use glass, ceramic, metal, or cloth.
  - i. Eat less beef.
2. Write letters to help save the rainforests. Consider the following.
  - a. Thank companies using tree-free paper and protecting rainforests.
  - b. Ask companies destroying rainforests to stop.
  - c. Ask oil companies to provide clean, renewable energy from alternatives like wind and sun.

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## RELATED RESOURCES

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- [Trees and our Environment #2535](#)
- [Ana in the Rainforest #3003](#)
- [Nature's Delicate Balance #8833](#)



### World Wide Web

The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

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### • RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK

<http://www.ran.org/>

The Rainforest Action Network produced this video and provides this website which offers rainforest information, ideas for what teachers and students can do, and a Kid's Corner with teacher and student resources.



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### • VIRTUAL RAINFOREST

<http://www.msu.edu/~urquhar5/tour/active.html>

Provides information and photos of all kinds of things found in the rainforest. Also includes a consumer guide to buying rainforest products.

### VirtualRainforest



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### • ECO PROS

<http://www.eco-pros.com/>

A vast array of environmental education information and related links for students of all ages.

