

Emergent Layer

These are the tallest trees in the rainforest and can reach 70 metres tall. They have huge leafy crowns that spread out like umbrellas to catch as much sunlight as possible. Colourful birds swoop and agile monkeys swing through the branches in the emergent layer.

The Canopy

This is the dense leafy layer with trees 40 metres tall. They spread their branches out to catch most of the rain and sunlight. This is the most popular place to live in the jungle, more wildlife lives here than anywhere else in the rainforest. Beautiful butterflies, orangutans, tree frogs and toucans all live here. The big cats of the rainforest, including leopards and jaguars, can come up to this layer from the understorey to hunt for food.

The Understorey

Leafy bushes and small trees entwined with vines make up this layer in the rainforest. It is dark and hot here. Many animals cross between the understorey and the canopy above, and many are nocturnal. Sleepy sloths, bush babies and bats can all be found living in this layer.

Forest Floor

A carpet of dead leaves forms the base of this dim and shady layer. The lack of sunlight means fewer plants grow here. Millions of creepy crawlies live here along with anteaters, tapirs and pythons!

