

ROBERTO'S RAINFOREST

The nationwide movement for high standards has not only determined what students should learn, but also has mandated that students demonstrate what they know. Teachers who choose ROBERTO'S RAINFOREST will find it is a standards-based program addressing National Science and Language Arts Standards. The content taught in ROBERTO'S RAINFOREST is the target of most state frameworks for life science. In ROBERTO'S RAINFOREST students use both language skills and science learning to write to legislators and national organizations for rainforest preservation. This unit also addresses Applied Learning standards when students work cooperatively to complete all the activities about the different plants and animals living in a rainforest.

National Science Education Standards

Content Standard C: Life Science

The Characteristics of Organisms

- Organisms have basic needs. For example, animals need air, water, and food; plants require air, water, nutrients and light. Organisms can survive only in environments in which their needs can be met. The world has many different environments, and distinct environments support life of different types of organisms.
- Each plant or animal has different structures that serve different functions in growth, survival, and reproduction.

Organisms and their Environment

- All animals depend on plants. Some animals eat plants for food. Other animals eat animals that eat the plants.
- An organism's patterns of behavior are related to the nature of that organism's environment, including the kinds and numbers of other organisms present, the availability of food and resources, and the physical characteristics of the environment. When the environment changes, some plants and animals survive and reproduce, and others die or move to new locations.

Content Standard F: Science in Personal and Social Perspectives

Types of Resources

- Resources are things that we get from the living and nonliving environment to meet the needs and wants of a population.
- The supply of many resources is limited. If used, resources can be extended through recycling and decreased use.

Changes in Environment

- Changes in environments can be natural or influenced by humans. Some changes are good, some are bad, and some are neither good nor bad. Pollution is a change in the environment that can influence the health, survival, or activities of organisms, including humans.

NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts

Standard 4: Students adjust their use of spoken, written, and visual language (e.g. conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.

California Applied Learning Standards

Standard 3. Students will understand how to solve problems through teaching and learning.

Standard 6. Students will understand how to apply communication skills and techniques.

Students will demonstrate ability to communicate orally and in writing

Standard 8. Students will understand the importance of teamwork. Students will work on teams to achieve project objectives.