

# Rainforest layer play

Which layer an animal spends its time depends on what they eat, how much water they need and even how much protection they need. Animals are adapted in different ways to survive life in the rainforest.

**CHALLENGE:** Add animals to your rainforest model from **Pack 2**.

- If you have not made one yet, head to **Pack 2** for the guide!
- Find colouring templates for the Lebialem Life team in the **Fun for everyone** section of this pack!
- Alternatively, use these for inspiration and create your own figures or drawings to add to your model.
- Try your best to get the animals in the appropriate layers...
- See below and the next page for some tips!

## Canopy

The leaves of these trees are so close together that they form a cover, a bit like a **canopy**.

Animals may visit this layer during their day. Here's some reasons why:

- Less humid than Understory or Forest Floor
- Less exposed to rain and sunlight than Emergent
- Protection from predators that can't climb so high
- Food is plentiful

## Emergent

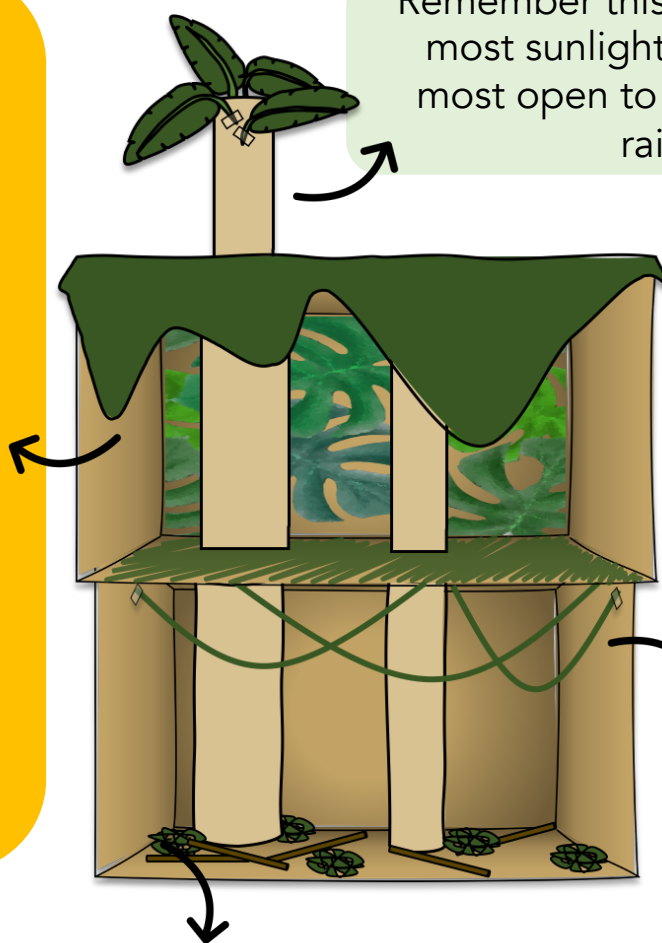
Remember this layer gets the most sunlight but it is also most open to the wind and rain!

## Understory

The canopy prevents this layer from getting much sunlight but the rain still pours here. This means it is very humid.

## Forest floor

Even more dark and humid. Lots of opportunities to find a meal. Many of the largest animals are found here, often these are predators. Don't be fooled, there are also some small but mighty creatures too.



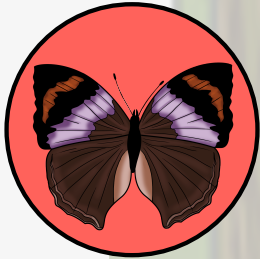
**FUN FACT:** None of our Lebialelem Life animals are found in the emergent layer and only one in the canopy.

It is important to remember that while animals may be well suited to a certain level, they will in fact use any of the others as well if it will benefit them!

**Bannerman's turaco** has a short wing-span which makes it easier for them to fly through the dense trees.



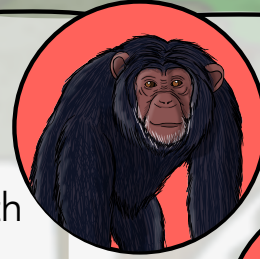
Like the name suggests, the **African leaf butterfly** looks like a dry leaf when its wings are closed and at rest. This helps it to camouflage.



**Preuss's guenon** have a long tail that they can extend to keep their balance. This means their hands and feet are free for climbing and finding food in the understory.



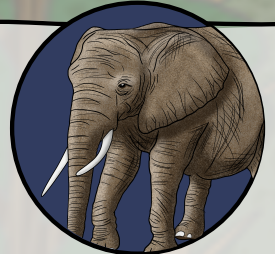
**Nigerian-Cameroon chimpanzee** has hands with opposable thumbs, like humans. They use these to make tools from plants which can then be used to extract insects to eat... a bit like cutlery!



With its strong muscled body, the **Forest cobra** can not only swim but also climb trees to the safety of the understory.



Unlike other elephants you may have seen, the **African forest elephant** has smaller and straighter tusks so they can move through the dense forest without catching them on anything.



The feet of a **Crested chameleon** are like two pincer pads that helps them to grip onto branches.



The colour of **Goliath frog** skin means they can sit and camouflage next to rocks. Without being seen, they can wait and catch any prey that comes along with their long tongue.



**African leopards** use their camouflage and heightened senses to hunt on the forest floor but it is their mighty strength that means they can drag any kill up into the trees. Up there, they can eat safely.



**Drills** look for food on the forest floor. They can fill their cheek pouches with lots of food to save for later.