

Amazon vs. Indiana (K-2)

This activity helps younger students understand some of the ways in which the Amazon rainforest is different from their own backyard.

Materials

Blackboard or easel

Chalk or markers

Procedure

Draw a Venn diagram on the board or easel. Label one circle "Amazon", label the other circle "Indiana", and the middle portion "Both".

Have students suggest characteristics of both the Amazon rainforest and the types of forests found in Indiana (or your own home state).

In the center section, place plants, animals, and characteristics that apply to both types of forests.

Talk about colors they would see, animals, birds and insects they would find, plants that might grow, etc.

Discuss the weather, the temperature, and the seasons.

Observations / Questions for Discussion

Why don't the same types of plants grow in both types of forests?

Why don't the same animals live in both types of forests?

What would happen if you tried to grow rainforests plants in Indiana, or vice versa?

What would happen if rainforest animals tried to live in Indiana, or vice versa?