Lesson plan - Rainforests

Curriculum links
Citizenship  Key Stage 1  Unit 2:  Choices
Citizenship  Key Stage 1&2  Unit 3:  Animals and Us

Prior learning
An understanding of different habitats and how animals, plants and humans are interdependent on each other.

Learning objectives
- Rainforests contain over half of all wild plants and animals on the planet.
- The rainforests are being destroyed.
- How choices affect us, other people and the environment.

Lesson structure

Introduction
- Discuss what they already know about rainforests.
- Read through the Mad about tropical rainforest leaflet with the class.

Activity
- Ask each child to draw around both their hands.
- In one hand write a fact about the rainforest and in the other, a solution to help prevent them from being destroyed.
- Use the Mad about tropical rainforest leaflet for information.

The children could discuss ideas for this activity in pairs.

Extension activity
Those who finish early can create different creatures that are found in a rainforest. These will be included in the mural, showing which animals are affected by rainforests being destroyed. They can add a speech bubble to the animal saying how it would be affected if the rainforest was destroyed e.g. a toucan saying “cutting down trees is cutting down my home”.

Plenary
- Put all the hands together to form a mural of rainforest trees.
- Separate the trees into ‘fact trees’ and ‘solution trees’.
- Children to spend time looking at the trees.
Resources
Mad about tropical rainforest leaflet
Paper
Colouring pens/pencils
Scissors
Display area

Key words/vocabulary
Rainforest
Species
Environment
Logging
Mining

Success criteria
The class will have produced a rainforest fact and rainforest solution tree of hands.