SCIENCE, MATH, TECHNOLOGY

AN ANIMAL APPETITE

Choose one animal from the tropical rainforest. Research the animal’s eating habits. Make a menu for your animal using its favorite foods. Include at least three appetizers, two main dishes, and one dessert. Pick one of the menu items and make up a recipe for it. Your recipe should include measurements and directions on how to prepare it. Include a picture of your animal enjoying its meal!

 TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE, ART

FRUIT TREE FACTS

The cocoa tree depends on many different animals and insects to survive. Research fruit trees that grow in your community or state. Compare the life cycle of your local trees with the cocoa tree. Think of a creative way to share your findings—a chart, poster, comic strip, song, 3-D models of the trees, PowerPoint, etc.

ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY, ART

FADING FORESTS

The rubber tree is another important tree that grows in the rainforest. In the 1800s, Charles Goodyear invented a way to vulcanize rubber. Why was this discovery so important? What was wrong with natural rubber? How did Goodyear’s discovery change everyday life? Research to find out. Make a chart or diagram to show what problem Goodyear solved, how he solved it, and how his solution changed the world.

ART, SCIENCE, MATH

CHOCOLATE CLAY

Ingredients: 2 cups cornstarch, 1 box chocolate pudding mix, 3/4 cup unscented or vanilla hair conditioner, squirt of dish soap, bowl

Let students measure and mix the ingredients together in a medium bowl. Stir until the mix reaches the consistency of clay. Once done, students can use the chocolate clay to make models of the cocoa tree or their favorite chocolate treat. (Be sure they don’t try to eat this “chocolate”!)

MATH, TECHNOLOGY

MILK CHOCOLATE MATH

Watch this video to see how chocolate is made: www.hersheys.com/ads-and-videos/how-we-make-chocolate.aspx.

Answer the following questions:

◆ If the Hershey factory is open 5 days a week every week, how much milk does it use in a year? (Hint: There are 52 weeks in a year.)

◆ The average cow produces 8 gallons of milk a day. How many cows would the factory need to provide the milk? Show your thinking in at least two different ways.