**TIME TO READ!**

**Before reading, build background:** Show your child the map in the back of the book. Talk about why this area is called the rainforest. Why is it important to our planet? Explain that we need trees to give us clean air to breathe.

**While reading, look at the pictures:** Help your child identify the animals in the book. Let your child mimic some of those animal’s actions or sounds.

**After reading, ask questions:**
- Which animals did you already know?
- If you could be any animal in the rainforest, which one would you be and why?
- Which of the rainforest animals is most like an animal where we live?
- Which animal were you most surprised to see in the rainforest? Why?

**RELATED ACTIVITIES**

**RAINFOREST BIRD BITES**

Ingredients: banana chips, raisins, dried figs (optional), sunflower kernels, sesame sticks

Eat like a bird in the rainforest! Put a few spoonfuls of each ingredient into a plastic baggie. Shake to mix. Let children go outside and enjoy their bird bites under a favorite tree.

**BABY BOAS**

Materials: colored construction paper, clear tape, scissors, small sponge, washable paint, black marker

Roll paper into a long, thin tube. Tape along the side. Cut at the ends to make a rounded end and a pointy end for the snake’s head and tail. Draw on the snake’s eyes and mouth. Just below the head, cut slits about an inch apart. Be careful not to cut through the tube! Use the sponge to paint the tube for the snake’s skin. Let dry.

**RAINFOREST RECYCLING**

Look around your house for items that you use or eat that come from the rainforest. What would you do without those products? Pick one item you can recycle or reuse instead of throwing away. How many different ways can you think of to reuse it? (For example, paper: use both sides, cut up paper that is blank on one side to use as a notepad, etc.)

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR**

The Beeman (2008), Up and Down the Andes (2011), We’re Sailing Down the Nile (2008), We’re Sailing to Galapagos (2007).