

# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Work Packet

Week of February 1-5, 2020

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please do not begin any assignments until instructed by Ms. Eggink.\*



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

BCCSG

College \_\_\_\_\_

### The Children of the Rainforest

Who are we and where do we live? You've heard a lot about the rainforest. You may have even seen pictures or watched videos about it. Well, you could say we know a lot about the rainforest... we live there! We're happy you've entered our little corner of the world to learn more about us and about our home. We live in a very large rainforest near the Amazon River in South America! It is a very beautiful place to live. The closest cities to us are pretty far away. It takes several days just to get to a city. Most of us have never been there. We live near the Atlantic Ocean, but we've never been there either. Our home is on a land reserve that was given to us by the federal government in the country we live in. Have you ever gone camping? We go camping our whole lives! We live off the land. The rainforest is very important to us because it is where we hunt, eat, sleep, and raise our families. Some of us know the language of the country where we live, but most of us don't. We just know our own language. Some of us even know three or four languages! There are only a few hundred people in the whole world who speak our language!

Do children of the Rainforest have to do chores too? We sure do! Our families count on us to get up early in the morning to begin working. We know that we are needed and expected to do lots of work. The girls look after their little sister, brother, niece, or nephew. They also help cook, grate manioc, carry heavy backpacks, and get water. The boys in our village have to do some work too (but they have more fun doing it). They hunt with the men in the village, fish, farm, and weave baskets. They also spend much time in the jungle as part of their learning and training to become excellent hunters and providers for their families and the village in the future. In our free time, both boys and girls love to go swimming in the river, and there is plenty of rivers around here in the rain forest! We also like to watch the animals in our village. The girls like to play with their hand-made dolls (since there are no stores around here to buy them at), and the boys like to shoot their bows and arrows and play in the forest.

We have so many animals here in the rainforest. We start learning about the animals and birds even when we are babies. Some animals we hunt for food so we don't go hungry, while other animals we use for fun as pets. Our favorite pets include frogs, baby birds, toucans, parrots, macaws, chickens, monkeys, pigs, baby alligators, snakes, turtles, agoutis, dogs, and even insects! Do you have any pets like that? Unfortunately, certain animals have become endangered in the rain forests because of their popularity as pets in other parts of the world.

We've heard that some people actually have walls on their houses! But not us... We don't need walls on our houses for anything. It doesn't get cold here, and we don't need much privacy at all. Privacy to us is a lot different than what you may be used to. If you came here and built a simple house, put walls around it, and wrote your name on the door, that doesn't mean that it is "off limits" or "private". But, we do practice privacy when we bathe in the river. Even though we don't wear a lot of clothing usually, the women bathe at one time or place and the men at another. Are you used to having your own room at home? Well, you sure wouldn't get your own room around here! To build our house, we put up some poles to support a thatched roof. Since it rains here so much, we do a good job in making the roof to have as few leaks as possible.



1. How is the passage organized?

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2. How do the children of the rainforest live differently than you?

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3. How do you think deforestation impacts their lives?

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4. What can we learn from the indigenous people of the rainforest? (Think about lifestyle, values and respect for the land)

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5. What is the point of view of the passage? How do you know?

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## "Effects of Studying Rainforests"

Scientists have been studying the rainforest for many years. The rainforest abounds with mysteries about the plants and animals that live there, and new species are being discovered every day. Through careful observation of plant life, the climate, and animals that live there, scientists learn more about the rainforest. But what are the effects of studying the rainforest?

### **Discovery of New Plants and Animals**

One effect of studying the rainforest is the discovery of new plants and animals. For thousands of years, people have used plants and animals from the rainforest for farming, clothing, and medicine. More recently, the National Cancer Institute has estimated that about 70 percent of known anti-cancer plants come from the rainforest, and scientists continue to discover new species of plants and animals. Between 1999 and 2009, over 1,200 plants and animals were discovered in the Amazon. That's one new species every three days! As new species continue to come to light, the potential for new, life-saving medicines developed from rainforest plants grows.

### **Learning about Climate Stability**

Another effect of studying the rainforest is developing a better understanding of how rainforests impact the world's climate. Rainforests are known as the "lungs of the planet" because of their role in absorbing carbon dioxide and producing oxygen. Scientists are still learning how rainforests give back to the ecosystem—how they regulate temperature and weather patterns and how they affect the water cycle. Understanding how rainforests impact Earth's climate helps scientists learn how to prepare for climate change. For example, scientists are now working with farmers in South America to rebuild the rainforest through reforestation, or planting new trees, and preserving forests.

### **Developing New Theories about the Rainforest**

Studying the rainforest also helps scientists to develop new theories about the plants and animals that live there. A new theory suggests that in addition to being the "lungs of the planet," the rainforest can also be thought of as a pump, like a heart. Some scientists think the rainforest pumps water through the ecosystem, which might explain why the Amazon has survived for so long.

Curiosity drives scientists' work, and they are always striving to learn more about what they are studying. Because of the importance of rainforests, rainforest scientists' studies affect all of us.

1100L

Written by EL Education for instructional purposes

Sources:

"About the Amazon." *WWF*. World Wildlife Fund, n.d. Web. 19 Jan. 2016. <[http://wwf.panda.org/what\\_we\\_do/where\\_we\\_work/amazon/about\\_the\\_amazon/](http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/where_we_work/amazon/about_the_amazon/)>.

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Butler, Rhett. "Why Are Rainforests Important?" *Kids.Mongabay.com*. Mongabay.com, 5 Dec. 2015. Web. 19 Jan. 2016. <<http://kids.mongabay.com/elementary/401.html>>.

"Why Is the Amazon Rainforest Important?" *WWF*. World Wildlife Fund, n.d. Web. 19 Jan. 2016. <[http://wwf.panda.org/what\\_we\\_do/where\\_we\\_work/amazon/about\\_the\\_amazon/why\\_amazon\\_important/](http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/where_we_work/amazon/about_the_amazon/why_amazon_important/)>.



# Finding the Gist and Unfamiliar Vocabulary: "Effects of Studying Rainforests"

RI.5.4, L.5.4

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Text	Gist (What is mostly about?)	Unfamiliar Vocabulary	Meaning (Use a dictionary!)
Introduction			
Discovery of New Plants and Animals			
Learning about Climate Stability			
Developing New Theories about the Rainforest			

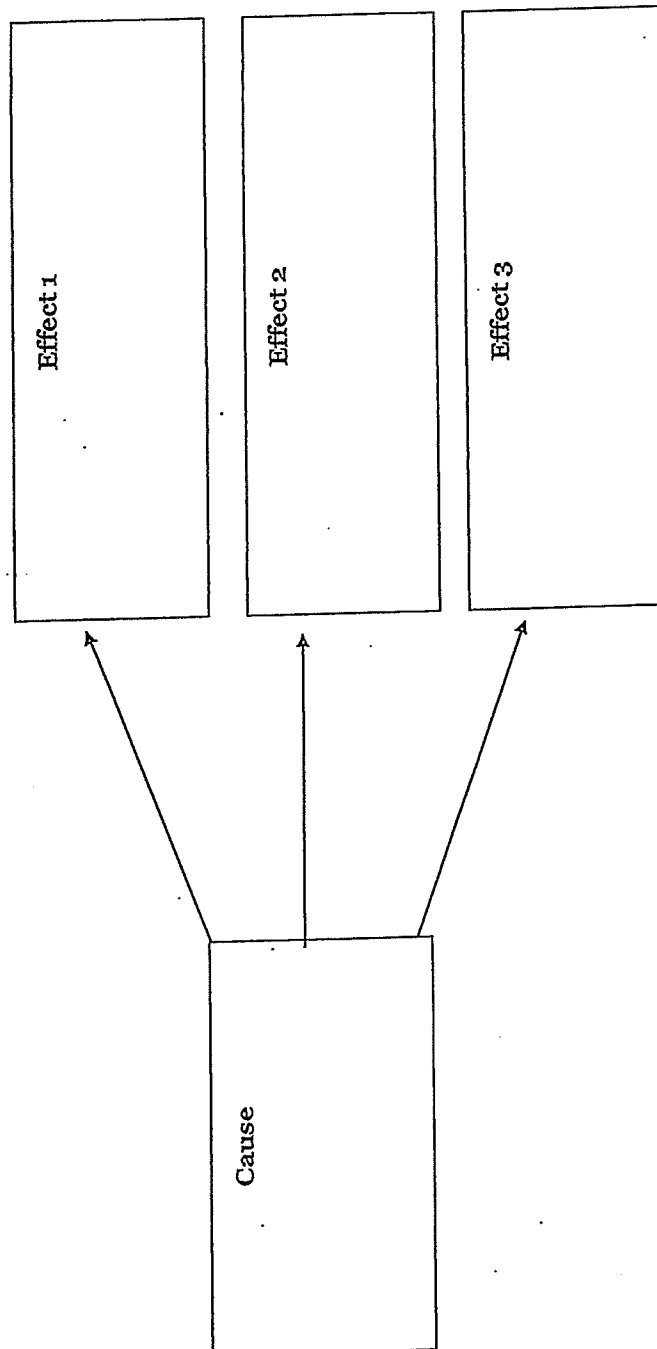
# Cause and Effect Structure: "Effects of Studying Rainforests" Graphic Organizer

RI.5.5

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*How does the way a text is structured support our understanding of complex ideas?

Text: \_\_\_\_\_







## "The Dreaming Tree"

### A Folktale from Brazil

April 24, 2007 | Adapted by Amy Friedman

Once upon a time a young boy named Uaica lived with his grandfather in a small village. He was a kind-hearted child, but he was sickly and tinier than the other boys of his village. He was frequently unwell, and the others teased him and ignored him, so that Uaica was often lonely. His grandfather loved the boy and wanted to protect him from harm, and so did his best to take care of him.

But one day when the boys had been especially cruel, Uaica could not find his grandfather. He walked into the forest, where he always felt happy. The trees offered a beautiful, protective canopy, and exotic flowers spiced the air with fragrant scents. The raucous calls of the macaws and parrots cheered the boy, and when the butterflies softly brushed against his skin, he remembered there was gentleness in this world.

Distracted by the birds and insects around him, he tripped upon a fallen branch, and when he looked down he saw a most amazing sight. There at the foot of an enormous tree lay a tapir, a sloth, an anaconda, a monkey, a caiman and a family of jaguars fast asleep, all curled up beside each other.

Uaica stood and stared in wonder, but as he did, he felt overcome by sleep. "I must not lie down near these wild animals," he said aloud, but he could not help himself. Before he knew what was happening, he was on the ground and fast asleep.

Soon he was dreaming. Someone was whispering in Uaica's ear, "I am Sinaa," the man's voice said, and Uaica knew this was the son of the jaguar. He had heard tales of this Jaguar Man, who had healing powers and eyes in the back of his head. This man was old, but when he bathed, he shed his skin and so he appeared forever young. He knew where the large forked stick that holds up the sky was buried and all the secrets of saving the world.

Sinaa began to tell tales and reveal his secrets to Uaica in his dream.

When Uaica at last awoke, the sun had set and the forest was shrouded in darkness. He looked around but saw no animals nearby. He ran home as fast as he could. But the next morning he could think of

nothing but that tree and the mysterious Sinaa, the Jaguar Man, and so he walked back into the forest, telling no one where he was going.

He found the tree and all those sleeping animals. He lay down and fell fast asleep, and once again Sinaa came to him in his dream.

For days Uaica visited the forest and dreamed, and every day he learned a new secret. But he stayed later and later, and so missed many meals. As the days passed, he grew thinner and more sickly. When Jaguar Man saw this, he said to Uaica in his dream: "I have taught you enough. Now you must promise to stay away from this place. If you return, you might never leave."

Uaica took this advice deep into his heart, for he had grown to love Sinaa nearly as much as he loved his grandfather. He would be sad not to return, but he gave his word, and then he walked home.

"Child," his grandfather said, "I have been greatly worried about you. Please, you must eat."

Uaica comforted his grandfather. "Do not worry," he told the old man. "I have a secret," and then he led his grandfather into the forest to show him the Dreaming Tree.

When they were nearly there, Uaica stopped, for he remembered Sinaa's words. "I cannot go closer, grandfather. I must stay away now." But his grandfather already had walked close, and the powers of the Dreaming Tree had captured him. He was on the ground, fast asleep among the animals.

Uaica stood at a distance and watched as his grandfather slept. He longed to hear Jaguar Man's words. "Perhaps I'll move closer," he said, but he stopped himself. Uaica would never break a promise.

When at last his grandfather awoke, he hurried to Uaica's side. "You must never speak of this tree to anyone," he said. "It is a powerful tree. Those who sleep here must be strong of heart. Anyone without a strong heart might use the knowledge of the forest against our people."

When Uaica and his grandfather returned to the village, they learned that one of the boys who always teased Uaica, a boy named Casimiro, had fallen gravely ill. His family feared he would die.

"I can heal him," Uaica said, and he went to the boy's side, laid his hands upon him, and Casimiro was cured.

So it was true. Sinaa had given Uaica the gift of healing.

The villagers were amazed that this scrawny boy had special powers, and for a long time they did not believe this could be so. But again and again Uaica cured those who were ailing, and soon everyone understood Uaica had a special gift. No longer did the bullies tease him. Casimiro became one of his dearest friends.

One night Sinaa came to Uaica again in a dream. "You have done well, child," he told him. "You obeyed my command to stay away from the Dreaming Tree, and you have shown generosity to all, even your enemies. Therefore I will teach you more."

Every night after that, Jaguar Man visited Uaica in his dreams. Uaica and his grandfather built a house in which to sleep and dream, and there Uaica learned the wisdom of the forest. Along with his healing powers, he learned to work with all the forest's gifts. He created necklaces and bracelets, belts and coats using feathers and flowers, stones and shells, nuts and bones. People were dazzled by the beauty he could conjure from the smallest, simplest things.

All was well until one day greed and envy crept into the heart of a woman of the village. "There's no sense learning to create these things," she said to her friends. "Uaica owns so many wonderful things. We should steal his treasures."

They hid behind Uaica's house until he returned from fishing in the river. But Uaica had learned another secret from Jaguar Man. He could see everything, even things standing behind him, and he spied his enemies in hiding. He quickly turned on them.

"This is how you repay me?" he said. "Now your greed will rob you of gifts." And with those words he vanished beneath the crevice in a rock, and the boy who could cure all was lost to the people forever.

However, legend tells us that to this day, Uaica dreams inside that rock, where he continues to learn the gift of healing from Sinaa, the Jaguar Man. It is also said that those who possess loving and generous hearts and listen closely in their dreams may still receive his wisdom.

Friedman, Amy. "The Dreaming Tree." *SunSentinel*. Sun Sentinel, 24 Apr. 2007. Web. 17 Feb. 2016. <[http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2007-04-24/features/0704230174\\_1\\_dream-tree-forest](http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2007-04-24/features/0704230174_1_dream-tree-forest)>.

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# Point of View Handout

RL.5.6

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Describing the Point of View

The *point of view* is the narrator's position in relation to the story being told. It shows the opinion or feelings of the individuals involved in a situation. Point of view is the way the author allows the reader to "hear" and "see" what is happening.

An author chooses the point of view to use, and this influences the information given and how events are described in the story.

Point of View	What is it?	Key words	Example
first person	The narrator is a character in the story; the narrator is telling you his or her story. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• makes the reader feel close to the character telling the story</li> <li>• helps the reader see the story through the character's eyes</li> <li>• what the reader knows and understands is limited to what that character knows and understands</li> </ul>		



Lesson 1

Point of View	What is it?	Key words	Example
third person	<p>The narrator is not a character in the story; the narrator tells the story like a camera recording the events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The story might be told through the experiences of a particular character or many characters.</li> <li>• It is possible for the reader to know and understand more than any one character could know.</li> </ul>		

# Finding the Gist and Unfamiliar Vocabulary: "The Dreaming Tree"

RL.5.4, L.5.4

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Text	Gist (What is the story about?)	Unfamiliar Vocabulary	Meaning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beginning at "Once upon a time ..."</li> <li>Ending at "... beside each other."</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beginning at "Uaica stood and stared ..."</li> <li>Ending at "... where he was going."</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beginning at "He found the tree ..."</li> <li>Ending at "... you must eat."</li> </ul>			

## "A Walk in the Rainforest"

I was walking back to camp, gazing up at the rainforest canopy to see if I could spot any unusual birds or animals when, "CRASH!" I tripped and fell to my hands and knees on the ground! Curious, I looked around to see what I had stumbled over. "Probably just a fallen branch or an exposed tree root," I reassured myself. At first glance, I saw what looked like a branch lying on the ground in my path. There was something not quite right about it, though, and as I looked more closely, I noticed that it was hairy! And it was breathing! The cause of my fall was a tapir that was still fast asleep at my feet.

"How odd," I said to myself. As I continued to look around, things got even more strange! Curled up sleeping next to the tapir was a sloth, and next to the sloth, more animals: a monkey and a caiman. A jaguar family nestled together a little farther on, all asleep. There was even an enormous anaconda! "Yikes!" I shouted, jumping a few steps back. I knew better than to get close to some of these dangerous animals, sleeping or not.

As I took in the sleeping animals, I noticed they were congregated around a huge tree. My eyes warily wandered from the base of the tree where all the sleeping animals lay, up the trunk, to the looming branches and leaves above.

"This is all strange. Very strange indeed," I thought to myself.

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Point of view: \_\_\_\_\_

Gist: \_\_\_\_\_

Sensory language example: \_\_\_\_\_





**Wednesday** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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**Thursday** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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**Friday** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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