Rainforests and Their Importance to the Planet Lesson Plan

Objectives: By the end of this lesson the students will be able to describe the different types of products that humans derive from Rainforests. The students will be able to list the major functions or rainforests for the planet. Students will be able to explain the importance of biodiversity in a rainforests success as an ecosystem. Students will be able to tell the educator what the current state our planets rainforests are.

Grades: K-8 (With Adaptions for High School Students)

Materials:

1. Household Products that are derived from rainforests
2. Animals from the Rainforest importance unit list.

Introduction:

 The educator will ask the students to get out their lists of products from last weeks wrap up. The educator will go over some of the students lists then they will put all the household items and products the brought with them on a table for the students to look at. Then they will discuss how each one comes from something the rainforest supplies.

Lesson:

 Now the educator will describe to the students what the main functions that rainforests perform for the planet. These include Supplying Oxygen, Filtering of Water, Supply of Food like Fruits and Vegetables, Supply of Medicines from plants, and containment of biodiversity. After describing these main contributions, the educator will then talk about the state of our rainforests across the planet. Discussing the loss or rainforest ecosystems and increasing large rates. Also describing the effects human impact has like deforestation, mining, and industrial ranching and farming affect rainforests. After this the educator will talk about the animals they have brought with them including the specific roles each one plays for the success of the rain forests.

Wrap Up:

Ask the students to think about what will happen to humans if our rainforests were gone as an ecosystem.