



LET'S GO TO THE JUNGLE!

Learning Objective:
To identify the locations
and features of cloud
forests.

Today, we're going to find out about a type of jungle that's very different to others you've been learning about. Let's look....





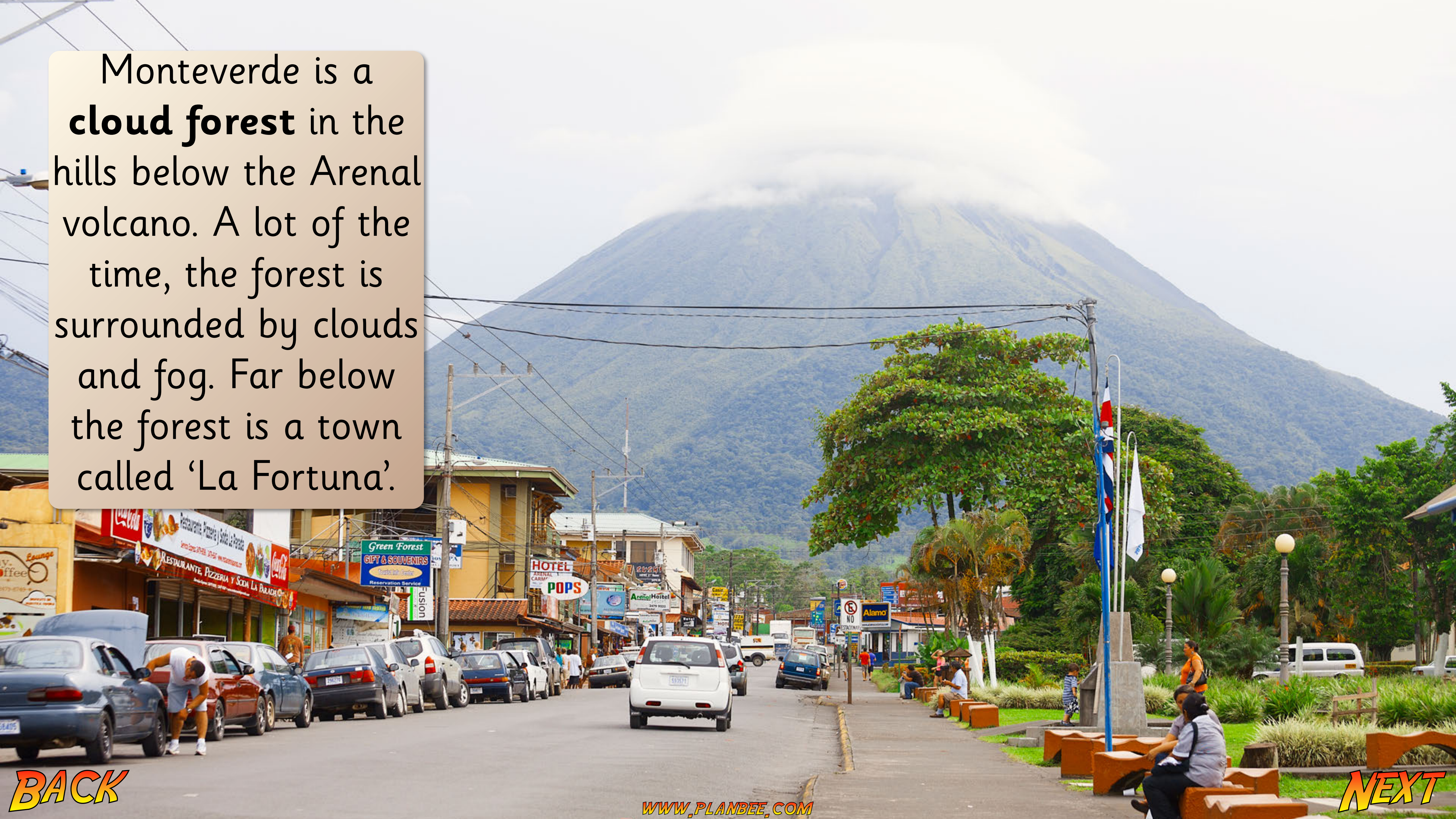
Monteverde,
Costa Rica.
**What can
you see?**

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Monteverde is a **cloud forest** in the hills below the Arenal volcano. A lot of the time, the forest is surrounded by clouds and fog. Far below the forest is a town called 'La Fortuna'.



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Monteverde is a national park. Visitors enter the jungle on bridges and walkways hanging between the trees.

What activities do you think visitors might do while visiting the park?

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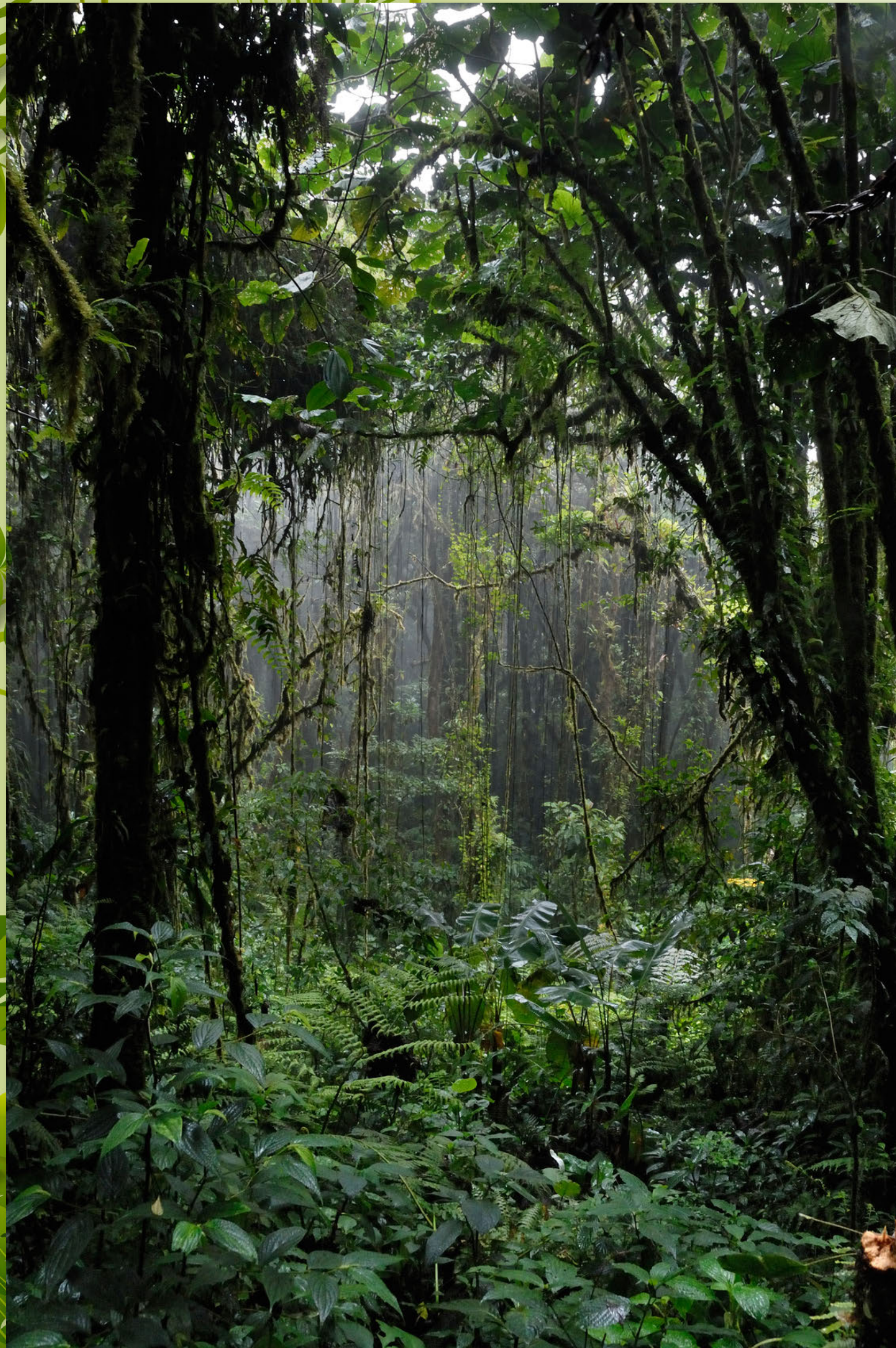
A photograph of a rustic wooden bridge or path in a lush, moss-covered forest. The bridge is constructed from logs and planks, all heavily covered in vibrant green moss. The surrounding forest is dense with various types of moss, ferns, and other undergrowth, creating a damp and mysterious atmosphere. The lighting is soft, highlighting the textures of the moss and wood.

Slippery, moss-covered paths and bridges snake through the undergrowth. The forest air is very damp, so mosses, lichens and fungi grow on every tree trunk and branch.

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Vines hang from the trees. Ferns and other plants, many of them taller than you, cover the forest floor. Beautiful orchids grow on the lower branches of the trees.

Imagine you're standing in the middle of the Monteverde cloud forest. What can you see? Hear? Smell? What's the weather like? How does it feel?

It's cool and damp in the cloud forest. Cool breezes blow down from the mountaintops, bringing fresh air into the forest. The clouds block out sunlight a lot of the time – it's quite dark, especially down on the forest floor. Cloud forest plants are special, because they can grow well in cool, dark, very wet places.

I wonder what animals might live in the cloud forest? **What types of animals can you think of that like to live in cool, damp, dark habitats?**





millipedes



beetles



frogs and toads

Did you think of animals like these? What can you see?



caterpillars/butterflies



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spiders

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Spider monkeys
climb through the
trees.



This strange animal
is called a **white-
nosed coati**.



Hummingbirds
drink nectar from
the orchids.



These slow-moving **sloths** spend most of their time hanging from the slippery branches of the trees.

Because it's so damp in the cloud forest, moss and lichen grows all over their fur!

Sloths even fall asleep hanging from branches! They dig their claws into the branches, so they don't have to hold on.



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Plenary

Can you use any of these words to help you come up with a sentence which describes the weather, or some features, of cloud forests?



mountain

orchid

breeze

lichen

fog

cloud

damp

vine

dark

moss

cool

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