

Structure of the rainforest

The structure of the woodland is important both in terms of the future of the woodland and the conditions it creates for the plants and animals.

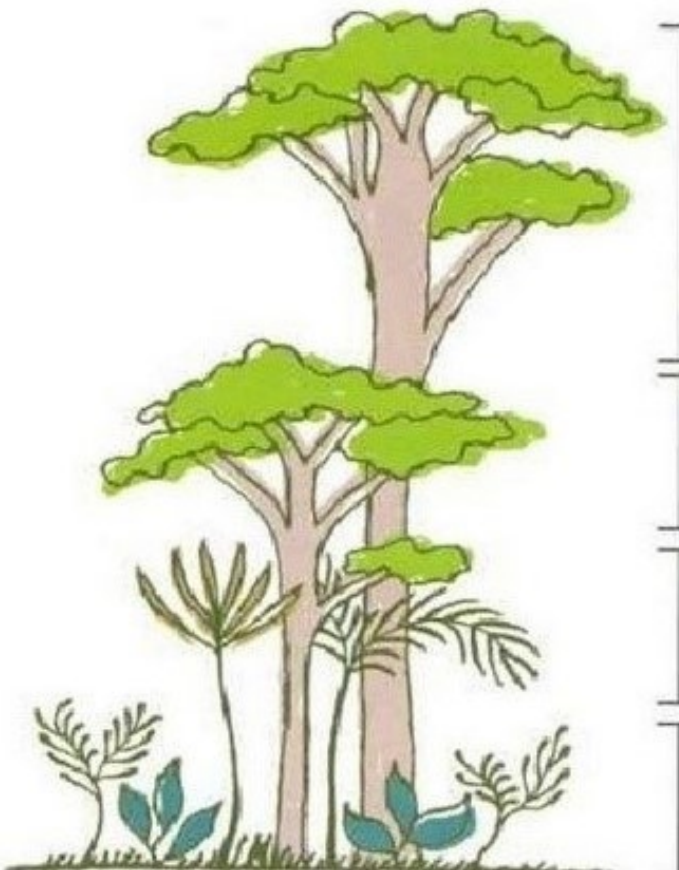
When we talk about the structure of a woodland we look at the height of the trees and the distribution of the trees, along with the various layers of plants that can be seen in the woodland.

Subject:

Science

Skills:

Literacy



Add arrows to the correct parts of the woodland.

Upper canopy – The oak is the tallest tree in the Celtic rainforest – this is the highest growing tree and will receive the largest number of the sun's rays.

Lower canopy – Smaller trees will grow here, including holly or rowan, or younger trees that will grow higher in time.

Shrub layer – Here you will find bracken and brambles.

The forest floor – Here you will find mosses, fungi and forest floor

It is important that each layer receives enough sunlight so that the plants and trees will grow healthily.



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Structure of the rainforest

Can you correctly match the descriptions and examples to the layer?

| Layer | Description | Example |
|--------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Upper canopy | The tallest and most mature trees can be seen in this layer. | Oak and ash trees |
| Lower canopy | Shrubs can be seen growing in the areas beneath the trees where they have adapted to growing in less light than the next layer up. | Smaller trees, such as holly or rowan |
| Shrub layer | The amount of growth in this layer is dependent on how much light can come through the layers above. | Bracken and brambles |
| Forest floor | This layer is dark and damp. | Mosses, fungi and small flowers |

Descriptions

This layer is dark and damp.

The amount of growth in this layer is dependent on how much light can come through the layers above.

The tallest and most mature trees can be seen in this layer.

Shrubs can be seen growing in the areas beneath the trees where they have adapted to growing in less light than the next layer up.

Examples

Bracken and brambles

Oak and ash trees

Smaller trees, such as holly or rowan

Mosses, fungi and small flowers

How can we manage the woodland to ensure each layer gets enough light?



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...tting trees down—especially the non native species. We can also use grazing animals. You can
...me of the other educational resources and by watching some of the videos on our [YouTube](#)