

DID YOU KNOW?

Fun facts about science...

Rainforests act as the world's thermostat by regulating temperatures and weather patterns. Though rainforests are commonly thought of as exclusive to Central or South America, these important forests are found on every continent except Antarctica.

- Seventy percent of the plants identified by the [U.S. National Cancer Institute](#) as useful in the treatment of cancer are found only in rainforests. Yet, it's estimated that less than one percent of the tropical rainforest species have even been analyzed for their medicinal value.
- Rainforests can be found as far north as Alaska and Canada. The continental U.S. is home to the [Pacific temperate rain forest](#) (as opposed to the more commonly known tropical rainforest) that stretches across portions of the Pacific coast from Oregon into Canada.
- The rain forest is nearly self-watering. Plants release water into the atmosphere through a process called transpiration. In the tropics, each canopy tree can release about 200 gallons (760 liters) of water each year. The moisture helps create the thick cloud cover that hangs over most rain forests. Even when not raining, these clouds keep the rain forest humid and warm.

