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**Tropical Rainforest**

The Amazon Rain Forest is home to almost half of the world’s animals! There is a variety of animals, some that have lived there for a long, long time or are new in this world. Some of the amazing animals are the weevil, the Panther chameleon, the Nymphalid butterfly and many more. But one of the most interesting animals in the rain forest is the Giant Anteater. The Giant Anteater hunts down ants in the dirt one by one with its long trunk for a nose. Finally when it sniffs out an ant nest, it tears it apart and eats it savagely. To us ants are animals that no one really pays attention to, but to them, it is like going to a parade and having a feast.

Animals aren’t the only amazing thing in the rain forest. More than half of the world’s plant types live in the rain forest. The epiphyte is a kind of plant that lives in the canopy. Epiphytes grow high in the rainforest's upper stories. The plant gets water and nutrients, or food, from the air, not from the soil. Many types of orchids and ferns are epiphytes and are found in **rain forests.**

Rain Forests are now becoming smaller and smaller for a variety of reasons. Demolition workers are clearing up space for farmers to live and have their field, but in the process of taking down all these trees and plants, what the demolition workers don’t see is that they are making the soil unfertile, making farmers move away because of the bad soil quality, therefore wasting land for animals in the dirt and for the farmers. When they ruin the soil they are mainly ruining it for decomposers .Decomposers are animals such as earthworms, beetles, fungi, microbes, and others live in the soil. Also the construction of roads, buildings, houses and much more are being made every day because of the population increase. But to do this they have to cut down massive parts of the Amazon.

The cutting down of the Amazon is a problem because Amazonia shelters 2/3 of the worlds remaining rainforest and is also home to 20 percent of the world’s fresh river water. If this process continues, in a hundred years or two, almost 50% of the world’s animals may never have the satisfaction of having a home or an environment that fits their needs ever again.