

Rainforest Rescue (Song Bird 3) by Karen Tyrrell

Teacher Notes: Rainforest Rescue (Song Bird 3) by Karen Tyrrell

Book Trailer on You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SwYIUpieXA8>

A read-aloud, junior novel suitable for children 7+, teachers, librarians, parents, school counsellors, reluctant readers and superhero fans.

Age Level: 7 – 12+ years Word Count: 24K

Reviews TBA: Buzz Words, Readlilearn, Norah Colvin, Educate. Empower, Just Write for Kids, Reading Time, teacher & author reviews, children, parents. Aligned with Kids Matter & primary **STEM** Science curriculum

Discussion Ideas

Knowledge and Literal Understanding

- Trees and forests are disappearing from the planet.
- Land clearing and development, mining and environmental factors contribute to world deforestation.
- Children can help save trees and forests.
- Mythical beasts are part of our indigenous and Australian cultures.
- Superhero powers can be explained by STEM science, science fiction & engineering.
- We can empower ourselves to live strong with humour, resilience, perseverance, brain power and working as a team.

Inferential and Critical Thinking

- How can we help save trees, forests, rainforests and National Parks?
- Why does Rosella Ava Bird go to Ancient Gondwana?
- What part does the power of friendship play in Rainforest Rescue?
- How can Song Bird's super powers be explained by STEM science, engineering, technology and science fiction?

Literacy Skills

Word Building

- *Word Endings* – adding 'ed' - feathered, ruffled, yelled, whistled, hummed, swerved, gripped, hovered, perched, hummed, whizzed, gazed, clapped, cheered.
- Ending rule - change y to i – bullied, terrified, scurried, hurried, emptied, worried,
- Adding ING:.
- Vocabulary **Rainforest Rescue:** Gondwana, forest, rainforest, volcano, battle, world, rescue, animals, creature, ancient, cabin, track, park, camp, plant, leaves, claws
- Emotion Words: brave, feeling, screamed, heart thumping, worried, evil, worry, laugh, terrify *grim, shiver, smile, cry, embarrass, bawl, terror, disappoint,*
- High Frequency Words –song, bird, flew, sang, super, tree, kids, school, friend, teacher, family, brother, sister, Mum, Dad, save, rescue, find, bus,
- Onomatopoeia – (see Drama), CRUNCH, GRIND, SCREECH, SLIDE, SKID, RATTLE, SPZZ, BZZZ, CRACK, RUMBLE, ZOOM, CLATTER, WHOOSH & more.

Grammar

- Naming Words – nouns – find the naming words in the story.
- Action Words – verbs – (see also Word Endings and Drama)

Comprehension

- Song Bird 3 Quiz Questions - Activity sheet
- Rainforest Quiz Questions - Activity sheet
- Australian Mythical Beasts Quiz Questions - Activity sheet

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Literature

- Read fiction and non-fiction texts about trees, forests and rainforests.
- What's the difference between fiction, fact, legends and myths? (ie Dreamtime mythical beasts)

Writing

- When did you help save trees? What did you do? What challenges did you face? Write a true account or a story from your imagination.
- Have you ever wished you had SUPER Powers? What would YOU do?
- Acrostic Poem – RAINFOREST– RESCUE – TREES
- Creative Writing Activity Sheets – Create a SUPER hero or SUPER villain

Cross Curricular

The Australian Government wants schools to increase student engagement in **STEM** subjects.

Science
Technology
Engineering
Mathematics

STEM Science

- List and draw: rainforest plants, rainforest animals, rainforest bush tucker
- Children grow and care for a plant from seed/ or cutting to sapling. Or sapling to tree. Create a diary journal with drawings and notes on growth and daily/ weekly care.
- How do you identify bush foods?

NATIONAL PARKS... Hands on STEM Science activities.

How to Look After & Protect Queensland's Forests

https://www.npsr.qld.gov.au/experiences/caring_for_parks_and_forests.html

Volunteering opportunities to work on conservation projects

<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/parks/park-volunteers>

Free Pocket guide to National Parks

<https://www.npsr.qld.gov.au/experiences/pdf/pocket-guide.pdf>

SUPER POWERS

- How can SUPER powers be explained by STEM science?
- How does Song Bird fly? How does she lift up off the ground? How does she move?
- How is singing produced by your vocal chords? How is singing explained by science?
- How do you sing louder? higher? Hold a note for longer? How could singing shatter windows?

Links: STEM Science & Superpowers

10 Inventions that gave us Superpowers:

<http://scienceonthego.griffith.edu.au/superpowers/>

Science of Super Powers

<http://www.stemfinity.com/The-Science-Of-Super-Powers-Camp>

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Science of Superpowers VIDEO <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JMhew8yRjvA>

Superpowers on Wiki http://powerlisting.wikia.com/wiki/Superpower_Wiki

History - Song Bird's Mentors

- Who were the first Superheroes? What is the history of DC and Marvel comics?

Social Skills

- Discuss how to make and keep a friend?
- How can you work with a team ... to succeed?
- How do friends and families look after each other?
- How can you be a Superhero in saving trees and forest?

Maths

- SUPER maths race/ challenges with speed OR amount of sums completed
- How many sums can you complete in 10 minutes?
- Timer: how long does it take you to do 10 20 50 100 sumsand get them right?
- Geometry: How do you draw Superhero symbols and logos? ie star, lightning bolt,

Mathematical Superpowers ...

Times tables, problem solving, calculations, maths problems, resonating, fluency.

<http://www.oakham-primary.rutland.sch.uk/mathematics/>

Craft

- Create ***Song Bird Superhero, The Battle of Bug World and rainforest Rescue*** posters. Use *textas, crayons, paint, pencil, collage, art paper, cardboard,*
- *Create Superhero stick puppets*
- *Create Superhero masks*
- *Create superhero logos*
- *Create Superhero onomatopoeia words and slogans*

Art

- Illustrate a scene from the text or from the story as outlined in *Writing*.
- ***Rainforest Rescue*** colour-in sheets using bright colours. Activity sheets

Drama

Body language:

- Show how to stand and walk like a superhero. Hero pose: head up, smile, shoulders back, hands on hips.
- Walking a straight line showing self-confidence: walking tall, shoulders back, chin up.
- Imitate mythical/ ancient/ villain beasts movements: Rainbow Serpent's dance, Yowie's stomping, Pteradactyl flying, Destructo's sneaking, dog robots.

Present ***Rainforest Rescue*** as a PLAY or pantomime.

Show range of GOOD emotions using facial expressions and hand gestures ...

Good, determined helpful, scared, sad, confident, assertive, friendly, guilty, proud, nervous, caring, sorry, kind

EVIL emotions: unfriendly, mean, aggressive, frightening, scary, bully, black, slink, hide.

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RESOURCE: How can Kids help save the Rainforest?

Rainforests are disappearing very quickly. The good news is there are a lot of people who want to save rainforests. The bad news is that saving rainforests is not going to be easy. It will take the efforts of many people working together in order to ensure that rainforests and their wildlife will survive for your children to appreciate, enjoy, and benefit from.

Some steps for saving rainforests and, on a broader scale, ecosystems around the world can be abbreviated as TREES:

- **Teach** others about the importance of the environment and how they can help save rainforests.
- **Restore** damaged ecosystems by planting trees on land where forests have been cut down.
- **Encourage** people to live in a way that doesn't hurt the environment
- **Establish** parks to protect rainforests and wildlife
- **Support** companies that operate in ways that minimize damage to the environment

Plant a Rainforest Tree

1. Ask your parents to buy foods—like bananas and coffee—[that are grown in a sustainable way](#)—In a way that is safe for the environment, for wildlife, and for people.
2. Do a class project to [learn more about rainforests](#) and [the plants and animals that live there](#). Create a skit, write a story, or decorate your classroom to look like a real rainforest. Use our [coloring pages](#) to get you started.
3. Have a bake sale, garage sale, or school fundraiser to raise money to [donate](#) to an organization that works to conserve rainforests.
4. [Read about other children who live in and near the rainforest](#); see how they and their families depend on the plants and animals in the rainforest.
5. Tell your friends and family about how important the rainforests are, or ask your teacher to teach your class more about rainforests.
6. Use less paper—re-use paper instead of throwing it out. Cut it up to use as a notepad, or recycle the paper you use. Ask your parents and teacher about how they recycle their paper.
7. Ask your school to buy [environmentally friendly paper](#).
8. Write a letter to an organization or company that is working to protect the rainforest and tell them they're doing a great job!
9. Look at a map of the world with your parents or teacher, and point out the places where rainforests exist.
10. Look around your home for [things you use or eat that originate in the rainforest](#); Think about how many [things that we use every day originate in the rainforest](#), and how it would affect you if they were no longer around.

[Forests Kids' Games & Activities Everyday Ac](#)

How Can Kids Save the Rainforest?

By [Erin Vaughan](#), eHow Contributor

- Saving the rainforest may seem like an overwhelming project, but kids can actually have a broader influence on the issue than one might think. By learning more about the creatures and people of the rainforest, as well as the issues affecting it, and by encouraging the adults around them to care about these issues, kids can have a lot of

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sway. Programs such as the Kids Saving the Rainforest activist group have demonstrated that even children can get involved and fight to save this resource.

Kids can save the rainforest just by logging into their computers

- Join Kids Saving the Rainforest, an activist group specifically designed for kids, by logging onto their website. Started by two 9 year-olds, Kids Saving the Rainforest runs several programs that children can participate in. For instance, the program publishes and distributes a pamphlet called, “10 reasons not to feed the monkeys,” which educates [businesses](#) and tourists on the Titi monkey, an endangered [animal](#) that was the group’s original focus. Kids Saving the Rainforest members also receive educational material and updates on the group’s efforts. Lastly, KSR hosts an adopt-a-tree program, where for a fee, youngsters can have a tree planted in their or their friend’s name.
- Have kids participate in letter-writing campaigns. The Rainforest Action Network, an activist group, has a specific part of their website devoted to letter-writing campaigns for children that lists businesses that contribute to deforestation, a summary of why their [business](#) practices may be dangerous for the environment and a sample letter for kids to copy if they wish.
- Educate kids about the rainforest. Log onto websites such as the Rainforest Alliance, which allows children to explore the rainforest and the issues surrounding it, through online games and activities. Not only does the website explore rainforest species and environments, games such as the “Track It Back” feature allow kids to explore where specific food products come from and how they are harvested. Other games let children get to know human rainforest residents and how they live and work.
- Be careful about the amount of waste you create and ask your child to help you. Simply reusing scrap paper and containers helps save trees by decreasing the need for new paper products. Additionally, encourage your child to consider asking her teachers to start a class recycling program if one does not already exist.