



TEACHER PACKET

# FOREST EXPLORERS



Dennis Dow, WPZ



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*Recommended for grades 1–3*

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Dear Educator,

We invite you to engage your students in learning about forests with Woodland Park Zoo's Forest Explorers teacher packet. This packet provides information and activities focused on temperate forests of Washington and tropical rain forests of Central America. Though designed to enhance a visit to the Temperate Forest and Tropical Rain Forest exhibits at Woodland Park Zoo, this packet can also be used whether or not your students are able to visit the zoo.

Thanks to a generous grant from Weyerhaeuser in 2006, Woodland Park Zoo's Education Department was able to update this packet to better align with state standards as well as national and state education guidelines, and to provide the most current information on forest ecology and conservation.

This packet has two main sections:

- **Background Information**—This information is mainly for your own knowledge and to supplement the Activity section. Words in bold can be found in the glossary at the end of this section.
- **Activities**—In addition to preparing your students for a zoo field trip focused on forests, completing activities from the Exploring Forests section will satisfy a variety of Washington State Science Learning Requirements and Environmental and Sustainability Education standards. The background information and activities can also correspond with district science kits.

Included in the Activities section are pre- and post-assessment activities that will assist you in measuring student learning resulting from a field trip to explore the Temperate Forest and Tropical Rain Forest exhibits at Woodland Park Zoo.

Please see the Education section of the zoo's website ([www.zoo.org](http://www.zoo.org)) for more information or to register for a visit to the zoo.

Sincerely,

Woodland Park Zoo  
Education Department

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

*The content of this packet was developed in 1995 by Margaret White and Becky Barker in Woodland Park Zoo's Education Department. This packet was revised in 1998 by Rachel DeGuzman and in 2007 by Jenny Mears in Woodland Park Zoo's Education Department.*

*The 2007 revision and production of the Forest Explorers curriculum packet was made possible by Weyerhaeuser Company.*

*Woodland Park Zoo's Education Department would like to thank the following people for all their assistance in the 2007 revision of the Forest Explorers curriculum packet:*

*Helen Buttemer, Biology Program for Teachers, University of Washington*

*Jim James, Weyerhaeuser*

*Elizabeth Loudon, University of Washington Botanic Gardens*

*Barb MacGregor, Washington Department of Natural Resources*

*Grace McLaughlin, St. Joseph School*

*Lynn Ormsby, Twin Lakes Elementary*

*Laura Potash, US Forest Service*

*Suzanne Reeve, Cognitive Studies in Education, University of Washington*

*Jim Stark, Weyerhaeuser*

*Heather Toomey Zimmerman, Cognitive Studies in Education, University of Washington*

*Shawna Zuege, University of Washington Botanic Gardens*

*Zoo Teacher Advisory Council Members*