



# Around the World

## Amazon Adventure Day 1

4 - 8TH GRADE

### WELCOME

(5 min)

**Instructions:** Say, "Today we get to make origami flowers, and then we will make a fun treat!"

### GAME TIME

(25 min)

#### POISON DART FROG

**Objective:** In this game, the poison dart frog has to "poison" as many other players by sticking their tongue out at them before the detective finds out who they are.

**Instructions:** Have the students sit in a circle. One student will be chosen to be a detective. The detective will leave the group and go somewhere where they can't see the group. All of the students will put their heads down and close their eyes. Quietly tap one student on the shoulder. This student will be the poison dart frog. When the poison dart frog has been chosen, the teacher will prompt the students to open their eyes. Then the detective will come back to the circle and sit in the middle of the group, and the game will begin. To play, the poison dart frog will try to be as discreet as possible when poisoning the others. When the frog makes eye contact with a student and sticks their tongue out at them, they will die a dramatic death and lie down! The detective will watch carefully and try to figure out who the frog is. They have between 3 and 5 guesses to guess the frog. When the frog has been discovered, or when the detective runs out of guesses, the game ends, and the frog will become the new detective for the next round.

### ART TIME

(60 min)

#### ORIGAMI FLOWERS

**Objective:** Students will follow along with a video to create an origami flower.

**Instructions:** Say: "The Amazon Rainforest has a huge number of different flowers—more than 16,000! It's like a giant, colorful garden. Flowers in the Amazon have different helpers. Some are visited by bees and butterflies, while others are visited by hummingbirds or even bats! Each helper has a favorite kind of flower. Flowers in the rainforest have clever tricks to survive. For example, some have big, bright colors to stand out in the dark forest so they can catch the attention of their pollinators. Many Amazon flowers are very colorful and smell nice to attract their special helpers. The bright colors and sweet smells help the helpers find the flowers. Even though the rainforest is a tough place to live, with lots of rain and competition for sunlight, flowers have special ways to survive and thrive."

#### Materials:

- Scissors
- Markers/crayons
- Paper- origami or square

For the origami activity it is important to use square paper! The STEM coach can use a paper cutter to cut printer paper or thin colored craft paper into a square about 8.5x8.5, or use square origami paper. Thinner paper is easier to fold.

1. Have students follow along with the origami instructional video.
2. Encourage slow and careful folding.

## STEM TIME

(60 min)

### Materials:

- Sweetened condensed milk
- Unsweetened cocoa powder
- Whole milk powder
- Mixing bowls
- Sifter
- Measuring utensils
- Spoon/spatula
- Bowl of water
- Gloves

### Recipe:

Makes about 20 truffles

#### Truffle Mix

- 1 Cup Sweetened condensed milk
- 1/2 Cup Unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 Cup Whole milk powder

#### Powder Coating Mix

- 2 TBSP Unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 TBSP Whole milk powder

## FREE TIME

(30 min)

### Materials:

- Books/journals
- Various games

## LEARN ABOUT CACAO

### Instructions:

Say: "Cacao (pronounced ka-KOW) comes from a tree that grows in the Amazon Rainforest. It's where chocolate begins! The cacao tree has big, green leaves and grows beautiful, colorful flowers. The flowers turn into big, green fruits called cacao pods. Inside these pods are cacao beans, which look like little seeds. The beans are covered in a sweet, sticky pulp.

Farmers carefully cut the cacao pods from the trees using special tools. They open the pods to take out the beans and the pulp.

To make chocolate, the beans are fermented in the sun, then the beans are dried and roasted. The roasted beans are cracked open to get the cacao nibs. These nibs are ground into a paste called cacao mass. Cacao mass is mixed with sugar and milk to make chocolate!

Cacao trees are important because they help the rainforest by providing food and shelter to many animals. They also help keep the rainforest healthy by growing in the shade of larger trees.

The Maya and Aztec people were some of the first to use cacao to make a drink long before chocolate bars were invented!

Today we get to make a very special chocolate treat!"

### Instructions:

1. Put the sweetened condensed milk in a bowl. Sift the milk powder and cocoa powder into the bowl. Stir till it is mixed well. It will look like very thick brownie batter.
2. Refrigerate for 1-2 hours, or until set.
3. Roll the mixture into balls about 1 Tablespoon each. Have a little bowl of water to dip your fingertips in and rub on your palms so batter will be easier to roll and won't stick to your hands. Just use a small bit of water!
4. In a small bowl mix the milk powder and the cocoa for the coating.
5. Roll the balls in the coating. Slightly press down to flatten, if desired.

Optional: You can have the students work in groups of 5. If the students work in groups you can half the recipe. Each group will get ¼ cup sweetened condensed milk, ¼ cup milk powder, 2 Tablespoons cocoa for the truffles, and 2 teaspoons milk powder and 2 teaspoons cocoa powder for the topping.

## GAMES, BOOKS, AND JOURNAL

**Objective:** Allow students time to connect with each other through a fun game or let them choose to read. If the students have not had time to draw/write in their journals, have them take some time to do so now.