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Class Name: Social Studies

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The Amazon Rainforest is one of the most beautiful places in the world. It is a place where there are many unique animals and plants of all kinds. Even so it is slowly dying due to the fact that many people destroy it for their own benefits. The rainforest is a very extraordinary place which we must protect for many reasons. The Amazon Rainforest requires it to be protected if we still desire the things we gain from it. If we lose it we may never have it back which would cause a big problem. It offers us not only plants but also medicine from them which help us save many lives as well as species that are under extinction which rely on the rainforest resources to survive. I believe that one of the most efficient ways to protect the Amazon Rainforest is by building National parks so we can preserve the plants and animals and avoid them turning endangered.

One very important reason why we should conserve the Amazon rainforest is due to one of the main important things it offers us which are different plant species. This is essential because some plant species can be used for medicinal purposes which help us save lives, heal, or for reasons like anesthesia. If we were to lose the Amazon Rainforest we may also lose certain plant species for medicine too. Some of the medicines that come from the Amazon plants are quinine, tubocurarine, vincristine, and vinblastine. Quinine is a muscle relaxant and is the very first efficacious medicine used to serve malaria and tubocurarine is utilized for anesthesia. Vincristine and vinblastine are used to treat distinctive types of cancer. All of these are important and we must preserve the Amazon Rainforest if we wish to continue having these plants. Nowadays, deforestation is one of the biggest ways we are losing the Amazon Rainforest and if things keep going at this rate it may also prevent researchers from finding more new medicinal plant properties that have yet to be discovered.

Furthermore, another reason why we need to protect the Amazon Rainforest is because of the many unique animal species that live there. The Amazon is a very special and unique place where it has many resources that animals rely on to survive and us humans are taking that away from them by wanting our own resources and destroying their home. The Amazon is one of Earth's last refuges for many animals which include jaguars, harpy eagles, and pink river dolphins. It is also home to 370 types of reptiles and contains one in 10 known species on earth. In addition it also has 3,000 freshwater fish species. We need to preserve the Amazon Rainforest to protect all of these species and yet there are still species being discovered each year which means there may be more species in the Amazon than we think and it doesn't help that we are taking away their home. All of this shows that the Amazon is home to many many species, if we were to destroy it completely and stop protecting it we would be turning our backs on thousands of species who count on a healthy forest for survival.

Moreover, I believe that these Amazon plants species and animal species must be protected from avoiding them becoming extinct or stopping them from extinction. I suppose a way we could do this is by creating national parks. I believe this can be an efficient way to preserve these plant and animal species by giving them the right environment for survival. The plants could be kept in greenhouses which stabilizes the growing environment to make it the ideal habitat for plants and protects them from cold. The animals are offered a safe place where they can raise their young, rest, play, eat, and be wild. They also have clean air and water which makes this a healthy and ideal habitat for these endangered species.

In conclusion, the Amazon Rainforest is a very attractive and pleasing place that is home to many happy species who hope to keep having it as their home. Us humans need resources and people are hurting the Amazon for their own satisfaction but this is not right. We can still gain these resources but not by hurting and damaging the Amazon there are still other solutions. All of these plants and animals deserve their home and we don't have the right to take it away from them. Which is why it is also our duty to offer them a safe place to live. By doing these things we are not only giving benefits to ourselves but also to the world, we are creating environmental balance, conserving rare species of animals and plants, and increasing natural beauty.

Project Rubric

Final Paper:

Paragraphs	Description	Points
Introduction	Contains a clear <u>thesis</u> and accurately describes the topic of the paper and why it is being written	3 2 1 0
Argument 1	Argument explains why it is important to protect the Amazon Rainforest, is clear, and uses 3 pieces of information from your sources to support your thesis	4 3 2 1 0
Argument 2	Argument explains why it is important to protect the Amazon Rainforest, is unique and different from argument 1, is clear, and uses 3 pieces of information from your sources to support your thesis	4 3 2 1 0
Action Plan	Paragraph contains an action plan that describes programs and actions you would take in order to better protect the rainforest and the animals that live there. Your action plan must be specific with details that would help the government put it into use.	4 3 2 1 0
Conclusion	Contains clear <u>thesis</u> and summarizes the main ideas of your paper	3 2 1 0
Grammar/ format	Paper uses proper grammar, format and spelling throughout	2 1 0

Final Paper Points: 20/_____

Materials:

Peer Edit	Completed peer edit assignment with thorough notes about your paper. Clear evidence that your partner has read and given you feedback to help improve your essay	3 2 1 0
Research Table		2 1 0

	Completed research table with information about which 4 sources you used and what information you included in your essay.	
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Materials Points: 5/ _____

Total Points: 25/ _____