

OTHER
SIERRA DISCOVERY SERIES
GAMES

◆ ◆ ◆
Alphabet Blocks
Pre-readers and up

◆
Castle of Dr. Brain
Ages 12 and up

◆
The Island of Dr. Brain
Ages 12 and up

◆
EcoQuest: The Search for Cetus
Ages 10 and up

◆
Mixed Up Mother Goose
Ages 7 and up

◆
Mixed Up Fairy Tales
Ages 7 and up

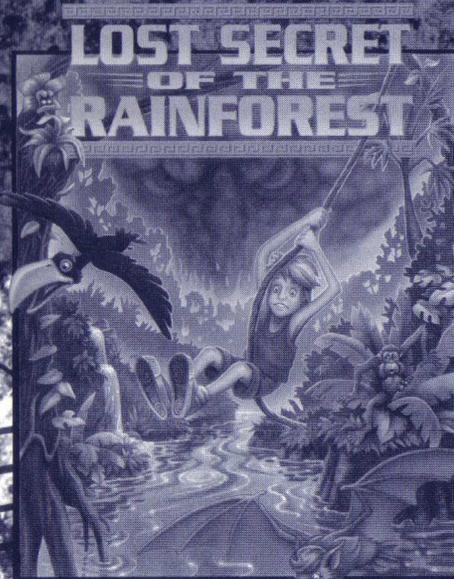
◆
Quarky and Quaysoo's Turbo Science
Ages 8 through 13

◆
Twisty History
Ages 8 and up



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SIERRA DISCOVERY SERIES



ABOUT SIERRA DISCOVERY SERIES:

The goal of the Sierra Discovery Series is to create the ideal learning environment, a time and place where learning can be fun. Several important things happen when your child plays a Sierra Discovery Series Game.

First, as kids get involved in the game's story line and solve its puzzles and problems, they develop mental skills like logic and problem-solving that are crucial to success in school, work, and life.

Second, each Sierra Discovery Series game introduces your child to one or more academic subjects—like math, history, or science—in an entertaining, enjoyable context. Besides teaching facts, the games stimulate curiosity about these subjects and encourage your child to explore them in other games, books, and activities.

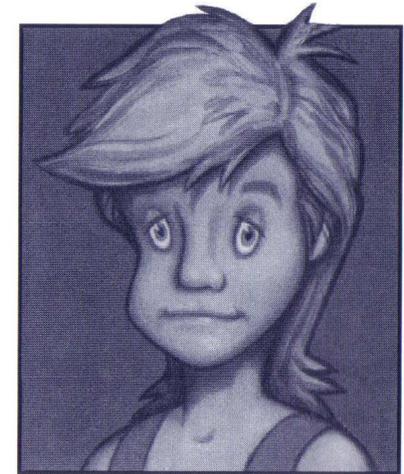
Finally, Sierra Discovery Series games make your child comfortable with the world of computers. As they play kids quickly see they're the ones who cause and control their computer's actions. This can go a long way toward motivating young learners and creating a lifelong friendship between them and computers.

Sierra Discovery Series games are an innovative, rewarding way you can help your child instill a desire to learn. We hope you'll try them all.

Hi, there!

Do you know what an apasanca is? An igapo? A curandero? Well, neither did I until my adventures in the rainforest! My name is Adam Greene. I'm twelve and I travel around the world with my Dad, who is an ecologist.

My Dad's latest assignment began in Iquitos, Peru. The Ecology Emergency Network heard rumors that a large part of the rainforest was going to be cut down and developed. When that happens, a lot of animals die and any indigenous people get relocated. Only problem is, there are fewer and fewer places for them to go. Through his contact in the area, Nicanor, my Dad heard that a tribe of people is hidden somewhere in this region. No one has ever seen them, but there are stories that they call themselves the Grove People.



My Dad decided that the best thing to do was to show the government a good reason to prevent development. He said that we should investigate, contact the Grove People, and help them set up a "sustainable economy." I didn't really know what that was, so he explained it. Here's the way it works. A lot of products, like soap, medicines, and so on, come from the rainforest. They can be harvested over and over, so the forest has to be left alone. We help the people set up their own business and make sure that no one cheats them. Then, they can continue to live mostly as they wish.

When we got to Iquitos, something surprising happened. We found something very valuable, but it will take a long time to harvest it again. My Dad calls it a "growth agent." If you play my adventure, you'll find out all about it. You will also find out about apasancas, curanderos, igapos, and lots more!

Gotta go - lots to do,

RAINFOREST GROWTH PATTERNS

Many of us think of forests as huge stands of oak or pine. Instead, the rainforest holds a dizzying variety of species inside a very small area. What makes trees bloom if there are no seasons to provide the hot/cold, long/short day cycles we know? Visit the astonishing Canopy! High above the ground is the rainforest's richest growth area. The Canopy has some very odd inhabitants and your child can talk to many of them! Keep an eye out for marauding jaguars and deadly snakes. Find out what the animals think of us!

THREATS TO THE RAINFOREST

The rainforest, a valuable resource for our planet, is under siege. Much of it has already been destroyed and more is threatened. Take your child on a journey through its many breathtaking landscapes. You'll see firsthand what clearcutting can do to the rainforest's beauty and learn about the many factors in its destruction. You'll also find out about the rainforest's valuable medicines and foods, many of which are undiscovered. Your child will feel the excitement of being first to see new wonders.

THE PLIGHT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Many tribes of people have lived in harmony with the forest for a long time. All that is changing as their home is destroyed. Give your child the opportunity to know a vanishing people! The Grove People have names taken from Quechua, a language which survives from Incan times. Their wisdom is even older.

PRE-INCAN CULTURES

The lush rainforest growth is overtaking ruins that predate the Incan and Mayan cultures. Who were these Old Ones and what were their beliefs? Why did they vanish? What have they left us? In *Lost Secret of the Rainforest*, we imagine some of the answers to these questions!

"BATS" ABOUT THE RAINFOREST

Did you ever think you would make friends with a bat? Your child will have the help of a very special bat on this adventure! Together, they'll encounter a terrible danger and engineer a daring escape. Explode the myth that bats are blood-sucking, scary menaces. The rainforest holds hundreds of species. Together, they pollinate many of the rainforest plants. They're small, they're cute, they're furry!

READING REINFORCED

A number of clues to gameplay are hidden in the rich descriptions found in the game. Chatting with the characters is an important part of the game. Your child wants to solve the puzzles and reading is often the key!

IMPORTANT RAINFOREST FACTS

Adam has a small handheld computer called the Ecorde and a list of "rainforest fact" to find in the game. Run the Ecorde cursor over the screen. If an important rainforest fact is contained in the scene, the Ecorde lights up! Click the Ecorde and store the data. At any point in the game, turn on the Ecorde and review the information, even take an on-line quiz for extra points. Print out a fact sheet of more than 80 important rainforest facts!

ACTIVITIES :

Lost Secret of the Rainforest can inspire your family to become part of the growing ecology movement. Each of us can make small contributions that, together, become powerful. Here are some suggestions of activities that extend the knowledge base of the game and can give more hours of fun to your family.

1. Write the story of Lost Secret of the Rainforest from Paquita's point of view. You have many choices of how to tell the story. Perhaps your children will want to tape record it and let you transcribe. Maybe one of your children is a budding illustrator! Keep the story as a companion for the game. Lend it to friends who are playing.
2. Check out books on the rainforest from the library! Here are a few titles to start you on your reading journey:

PICTURE BOOKS:

Jeannie Baker. **Where the Forest Meets the Sea.** New York: Greenwillow Books, 1987.

Lynne Cherry. **The Great Kapok Tree.** New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1990.

Helen Cowcher. **Rain Forest.** New York: Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 1988.

Arthur Dorros. **Rain Forest Secrets.** New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1990.

Jean Craighead George. **One Day in the Tropical Rain Forest.** New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1990.

INFORMATION:

Edward G. Atkins, Ph.D., editor North American Edition. **Vanishing Eden: The Plight of the Tropical Rainforest.** Hauppauge, NY: Baron's Educational Series, 1991.

Catherine Caulfield. **In the Rainforest: Report from a strange, beautiful, imperiled world.** New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1989.

Frank Greenaway, writer. Photographed by Jerry Young and Frank Greenaway. **Amazing Bats.** Eyewitness Juniors, Vol. 13. New York: Alfred A Knopf, 1991.

Susanna Hecht & Alexander Cockburn. **The Fate of the Forest.** New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1990.

John C. Krichner. **A Neotropical Companion.** Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1989.

Scott Lewis. **The Rainforest Book.** Los Angeles: Living Planet, 1990.

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3. Do trees grow where you live? Learn what kind of trees grow in the region where you live.
 4. Learn about fruit bats and insect eating bats. Can you build a bat house on your property?
 5. Set up a family recycling center. Analyze your garbage for one week. Is there some way you can cut down on the amount?
 6. Make finger puppets of the animal characters in the game. Write a script for each one that contains a different rainforest fact. Perform the scripts at a "Rainforest Fund-Raiser" and send the proceeds to the rainforest organization of your choice.
 7. Tell the story of the Grove People as they left the City of Gold. Tell a story about their old life in the City and their new one in the forest.
 8. Get a soil test kit at a local gardening store. Test your soil in several locations. Does it need more nutrients? What grows best in your type of soil?
 9. Start a hydroponic window garden. Learn that dirt and soil are not the same things!
 10. Find out what products you buy or have in your home that come from the rainforest. Which ones of them depend on sustainable agriculture? Which ones might have come from clearcutting?