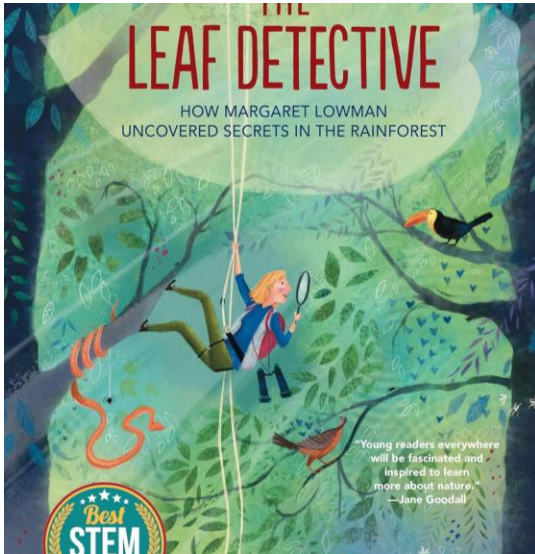


Discussion Guide for Families



The Leaf Detective

Author: Heather Lang

Illustrator: Jana Christy

Themes: Environment and Sustainability

Book Brief: This picture book biography tells the inspiring story of Meg Lowman, a pioneering scientist who explored the rainforest treetops despite many challenges. Through perseverance and innovation, Meg not only created a path for herself in science but also worked to protect the future of rainforests.

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Ask your child “Why do you think saving the rainforest is important?”

While Reading: Make Connections

- Why was it surprising for Margaret Lowman to become a scientist? Use details from the story.
- How did Margaret first get interested in studying trees, and what was her first method for climbing them?
- What is transpiration? How do trees and plants help people by using carbon dioxide and giving off oxygen?

After Reading: Ask Questions

- What made Margaret Lowman a successful field biologist? What qualities or actions helped her succeed?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book, consider:

- Encourage them to talk about it during other conversations.
- Check out RIF’s [Sustainable Futures](#) center to learn more about sustainability with related books and resources.