



Explore

THE FOREST

INTRODUCTION

Explore the Forest is a HEADU educational game. The Headu system allows development-aged children to play, learn and develop intelligence skills that they will use throughout their lives. Explore the Forest is a game designed to expand scientific thought, to help children develop a “scientific mentality.” Having a scientific mentality means trying to understand the origin and nature of things.

This activity starts with an accurate, sometimes measured observation of the phenomena, in this case, nature. Observation is actually the starting and ending point of a scientific idea. Children can learn from an early age to study phenomena, in this case the animals of the forest, and classify them.

Children learn that by observing and recording data, they can formulate ideas: which animals roam the forest? How common are they?

STEM Educational Games

Explore the Forest is a STEM educational game. S.T.E.M. is the acronym of Science (Science), Technology (Technology), Engineering (Engineering) and Mathematics (Mathematics) coined by the National Science Foundation in the early 1990s.

STEM toys bring children closer to these subjects thanks to their functionality and simplicity of understanding. They are not just toys, but real, useful tools for learning.

These products help children develop their skills, as well as making education a creative, engaging experience. They present the perfect combination: learning while having fun.

The right attitude

The role of the parent-educator is essential for understanding the enormous potential of children and creating a favorable environment around them, where they can play in a natural, joyful and spontaneous way. It is important to listen to children, understand their needs and state of mind, being ready to listen to them and show confidence in their abilities. A positive attitude is fundamental to achieving any goal.

EXPLORE THE FOREST

Who is the game for?

This game is designed for children 5-10 years old.

At this age, children want to explore and do things by themselves in close-contact with the environment.

How to introduce the game to your child

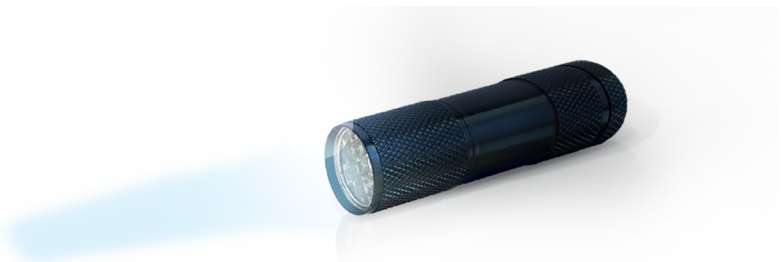
To play the game, it is necessary to find a suitable environment, a quiet area free from distractions. Furthermore, it is important to allow children as much time as necessary to complete the game, encouraging concentration. Every child has their own speed of learning and it is the task of the parent-educator to understand and respect this rhythm.

Contents

The kit includes: a 70-piece puzzle 60x44, a special flashlight, a dry-erase marker.

Educational objectives

This game will help children develop a scientific mentality using precise, empirical observations. They discover nature as a magical environment and all the animals that inhabit the forest.



It also develops:

- **memory** and the **ability to observe**, through which they can identify how many times an animal or an object is repeated in the illustration.
- **concentration**, as the playful context is able to attract children's attention to explore and learn about the many "inhabitants" of the forest.
- **curiosity**, which allows children to be inspired to learn and make discoveries about the magic of the Amazon forest.
- **creativity** and **imagination**, using the semi-realistic illustrations that cast children into the world of the forest imagining that they live in it.
- **autonomy**, through freedom of observation to do research in close contact with the environment.

Intelligences involved

This educational device uses Howard Gardner's theory of Multiple Intelligences as references, according to which from the moment of birth, each person has more than one way of thinking, multiple *formae mentis*, relatively independent of each other. The game encourages children to develop some of Gardner's intelligences:

- **spatial intelligence**, consisting of knowing how to recognize the relationships between objects in the environment and knowing how to use visual memory;
- **naturalistic intelligence**, allowing people to show a particular interest towards important natural phenomena and towards the life of animals and plants;
- **corporeal-kinesthetic intelligence**, or a wide-ranging ability to manipulate objects and use hand-eye coordination;
- **logical-mathematical intelligence**, allowing people to classify and synthesize information through inductive reasoning.



SUGGESTED ACTIVITY: KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!

Explore the Forest is a puzzle set in the Amazon forest: groups of crocodiles, parrots, toucans and giant butterflies roam undisturbed along the shore together with monkeys and jaguars. It is colorful and full of semi-realistic illustrations to help children get accustomed to scientific research and empirical observations, discovering animals in the forest and even beyond! Dress up like an explorer and set off on an adventure into the Amazon forest. In the package, you will find a rich kit which children can use to really get into the role.

How to play

After putting the puzzle together, the player, immersed in the flora and fauna of the forest, looks not only for birds, reptiles and mammals, but also for maps, magnifying glasses and telescopes. Using the notebooks included, they can write down how many times they encounter a certain subject or object in the illustration and in this way, confirm their research. There are four notebooks available, each designed with the image of the subject on them plus eight empty circles to be checked off as the explorer encounters the corresponding subject in the forest. There are always eight circles even if a subject may appear more often, as this will stimulate the child to research and observe more closely.



But be careful, some details are not visible to the naked eye, but only by using the magic flashlight found in the kit. These details are also present in the notebooks, so the child must look for them carefully and check them off with the erasable marker.



Your mission to the Amazon rainforest has been a success!

