



# The Amazon Trail

**Currently Out of Print**



IN A NUTSHELL

Matel Interactive  
 phone: (800) 395-0277  
 website: www.matelinteractive.com

MEEC  
 One Athenaeum Street  
 Cambridge, MA 02142  
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 fax: (617) 494-1219  
 website: www.learningco.com

**Cost:** \$29.95  
 also available in lab packs

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## SUBJECT

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Economics  
 Health  
 Science  
 Social Studies

This hybrid CD-ROM for Macintosh and Windows is an educational adventure game which leads students through the rainforest to locate an indigenous tree which is the source of a cure for malaria. Students can obtain information on the rainforest, its flora, fauna and indigenous cultures by clicking on different items on the screen. The 25-page guidebook provides information on more than 60 species of animals and plants, as well as diseases, peoples, and items needed for trade and survival. Participants are provided with rations for their journey, which they must budget and use throughout the game. Students' scores (for locating and photographing different species) are recorded in the form of pictures on Mayan shields. Also contains a list of rainforest activities and age appropriate reading, as well as information on what students would find if they were "really" in the rainforest.

<b>Grade Level</b>	4-12
<b>Length</b>	CD-ROM
<b>Date Published</b>	1993

## What the REVIEWERS Said!

Strengths Noted

**Other Considerations**

The program emphasizes planning and data collection and provides a general introduction to the Amazon rainforest. Although it included different cultures in the game, different perspectives on nature were not included. Instructions were not always clear. The material had only a modest connection to environmental issues and does little to connect the activities or topics to everyday life. Because of the similarity to another computer simulation game, the educational purpose is easily lost.