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ORGANISM ADAPTATIONS TO WATER AVAILABILITY IN THE CLOUD FOREST Plant Observations

CANOPY PLANT	ADDITIONAL INFO	OBSERVATIONS
	If you look carefully, you can see that the leaves of this canopy plant have signs of succulence- literally speaking, they are full of juice. These wide fleshy leaves are adapted to hold water. This plant is exposed to a lot of wind, which has the effect of drying out the plant's leaves. Succulence is an important strategy for these plants to survive.	
LIVERWORT	ADDITIONAL INFO	OBSERVATIONS
	This is a leafy liverwort, a very common group of small plants that often grow epiphytically on branches and tree trunks in very wet areas such as tropical montane cloud forests. The small branching stem you see is only about an inch, just a couple of centimeters in length.	



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ORGANISM ADAPTATIONS TO WATER AVAILABILITY IN THE CLOUD FOREST Rainfall Data

Panorama #1 – Low Elevation Cloud Forest Elevation in meters: _____

Month	Total Rainfall (mm)
September	530.4
October	866
November	356
December	80.6
January	9.6
February	59.8
March	25.6
April	1.2
May	115.5
June	334
July	268.4
August	325.5

Panorama #3 – High Elevation Cloud Forest Elevation in meters:

Month	Total Rainfall (mm)
September	671.4
October	883.2
November	273.4
December	223.2
January	78.4
February	180.4
March	114.8
April	28.4
May	248.7
June	346.8
July	275.9
August	312.5



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ORGANISM ADAPTATIONS TO WATER AVAILABILITY IN THE CLOUD FOREST The Scientific Process

Scientific Question

Where does each plant species live within the cloud forest?

Hypothesis

Remember to use the form, "I predict.....because...." and support your hypothesis with information you have already gathered.

Procedure

What other information would you need in order to determine the accuracy of your hypothesis? What other information would you need to answer the question: *What adaptations does each plant species have that allow it to live in its habitat?*

What processes/procedures would you utilize to get this information if you were in the cloud forest today?



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Data Collection

Fill in the following chart with information you have collected from viewing the *Canopy in the Clouds* website. Be sure to include the panorama number and hotspot number in case you need to return to the same location.

Panorama #	Hotspot #	Data/Information Collected
	_	



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Conclusion

Write a conclusion using the information you have gathered from *Canopy In The Clouds* media and data. Discuss whether or not your hypothesis was correct and explain the data that lead to your conclusion. The conclusion should also answer the question: *What adaptations does each plant species have that allow it to live in its habitat?* You should write at least two paragraphs.



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ORGANISM ADAPTATIONS TO WATER AVAILABILITY IN THE CLOUD FOREST Student Assessment

Directions: Examine the plant species that is found within the Monteverde Cloud Forest. Read the accompanying text and then answer the questions.



This epiphytic plant is known as a filmy fern. The leaves often appear translucent because they may only be a single cell in thickness. This makes the fern very vulnerable to desiccation (drying out).

1) Where do you believe this plant species lives within the cloud forest? You may use a panorama number, general elevation, or description of the habitat to answer the question. Be sure to include data you have collected during class to support your answers.

2) What adaptations allow this plant species to live in its habitat?