**Rainforest Friends**

Gertie Gorilla is peaceful and tender.

Her home is a colorful tropical splendor!

Tommy, the Toucan, likes to make noise!

High in the canopy, he flies with the boys!

Clara, the Chameleon, can hide really fast!

Her colors can change to blend in, not contrast!

Paco’s a monkey who can swing through the trees.

He hangs from his tail to grab sweet fruit and seeds.

Flora’s a Butterfly, who flutters for hours.

She loves to find nectar in rainforest flowers.

Carlos Macaw is curious and smart.

His wingspan is five feet when spread wide apart!

Selma’s a sloth who is quiet and shy.

She sleeps upside down in the trees way up high.

Ace, the anteater has a long tongue that’s sticky.

It makes snaring ants easy, which is really quite tricky!

Bora’s a bat with a strong sense of smell!

She finds fragrant flowers near caves where she dwells.

Jake is a Jaguar with powerful paws.

He tackles his prey using razor-sharp claws!

Annie’s a super strong Leaf-cutter ant.

She carries big cargoes and never says, “Can’t.”

Fred is a tree frog whose skin is so bright.

He’s also nocturnal, so he leaps in the night!

Iris, the Iguana, can dive 50 feet!

She swims to cool off from the rainforest heat!

**But wait! These rainforest friends are all facing disaster!**

Their homes disappear now faster and faster!

Each day and each night, forest trees are cut down.

Yes! People just tear them right out of the ground!”

Rainforest friends cry, “We live in these trees!

They lower Earth’s temperature several degrees!

Trees remove carbon dioxide so Earth can stay cool!

They even make oxygen! Trees really rule!”

Carbon dioxide pumps from stacks, trucks and cars.

Though you can’t see it, it leaves its own scars.

It warms air and water so that glaciers melt.

Temperature changes worldwide are then felt.