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## **ACTION: THE FOREST SEARCH**

**Moment:** during the walk through El Angelito Trail

**Type of action:** species search

**With whom:** a partner

**Materials:** trail map, images, and a description of the species to be identified; it can be on your digital device or a printed sheet.

**Objectives:** to observe, discover and identify

**Topics:** Flora, Fauna, and Fungi

Welcome to the forest community Come meet us! This is a great opportunity for you to identify us with the following clues. *First Clue:* We are in El Yunque, in El Angelito trail. When you find us, you can draw or make a mark on the following map. If you're up for it, you can take pictures of the identified species and share them on social media, using the #hashtags: #bosqueadentro #ccp #elyunque #elangelito #labúsquedaenelbosque and #laespecieidentificada.



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### TABONUCO

*Dacryodes excelsa* Valh

Do you remember me? My family stays connected through roots! I am native of Puerto Rico, and I'm known as **Tabonuco**, "gomier", and "candlewood." My bark is of a reddish brown color, and my fragrant leaves are **pinnations** made of five and seven dark green leaves. My bark exudes a whitish resin that has a fragrant scent. The Puerto Rican Parrot loves to eat my seeds. When you find me, don't hesitate to say hello. Where am I?



### WOOD EAR

*Auricularia cornea*

I feed off trunks and decaying wood. If you watch closely, you will see us attached to the trunk off which we are feeding, creating a pretty composition. Our brown color and gelatinous texture will grab your attention. I'm known as *oreja de madera* in Spanish, **Wood Ear** in English, and around the world they use me for food and natural medicine. If you see me around, don't eat me! It's important to always identify me first with an experienced **micologist**.



### ESPINO RUBIAL

*Zanthoxylum martinicense*

In Puerto Rico, I am known as **Espino Rubial**. My trunk? It's long and has dispersed cone-shaped spikes. My crown? It's slightly thick with light green pine-shaped compound leaves. I have small, greenish white flowers. I love being in rainforests like this one. Look for me!



### BANDED SNAIL

*Caracolus bornii*

I am a **Banded Snail**. Notice the spiral on my shell, and you will see a light coffee coloration and bands of a darker brown. I have two tentacles in my head that look like antennas, which is where my eyes and sensors are. Be careful: I'm a herbivore, and I love fallen leaves on the ground! My rhythm is slow. I go calmly through life and can live up to 10 years. Oh, and I'm a hermaphrodite, which means that I am female and male. If you watch closely, you might find me on a trunk or a tree.

**micologist:** A person dedicated to the study of fungi.

**pinnations:** A botanical term used to describe leaves that have numerous folioles placed on either side of a main axis.