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Rainforest Cookies
What do we use from the rainforest?
Even though we may live a long way from a rainforest, we eat and use lots of things from the area. Air; medicines; mahogany and teak wood; rubber; chocolate; gum; Brazil nuts; cashews; coffee; coconuts; spices like pepper, cinnamon, and vanilla; and fruit like pineapples, bananas, mangos, and papayas are just some of the rainforest items that we use on a regular basis. What are some items that we use just as they grow or come from the rainforest? What are some things that we use part of or change to make useful to us? What would happen if the rainforests were to disappear?

These cookies use several ingredients that come from the rainforest.
Preheat oven to 3750 F.
2 to $21 / 4$ cups all purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 stick butter ( $1 / 2$ cup), softened
1 medium ripe banana
$1 / 2$ cup granulated sugar
$1 / 2$ cup brown sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 eggs
$1 / 4$ cup sweetened coconut flakes
4 cups (12 oz) chocolate chips
1 cup chopped cashews

Combine 2 cups flour, baking soda, salt, and cinnamon and set aside.
Beat butter, banana, and sugars until creamy.
Beat in eggs and then add the coconut flakes.
Gradually add flour mixture using extra flour if needed.
Stir in the chocolate chips and cashews.
Drop by rounded tablespoon onto an ungreased baking sheet.
Bake 10 to 12 minutes until golden brown.
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