

Year 3 - Spring

Geography Knowledge Organiser

Topic:

Rainforests

Links to other year groups: Year 11 Energy Issues & Forests under threat.

Key Vocabulary:

climate - weather conditions over a period of time.

deforestation - the cutting down and clearing of forests.

Equator - an imaginary line running around the centre of the earth.

humid - damp air due to water vapour in the air.

species - a group of similar animals or plants

tropical - an area of the planet that is humid and houses tropical plants and animals.

Key facts/statistics:









The Amazon Rainforest

- 5.5 million square km (previously covered a much larger area)
- Parts in Brazil, Peru, Columbia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana
- 2.5 million insect species
- 40 000+ plant species
- 3 000 edible fruits
- 2 000+ species of birds and mammals

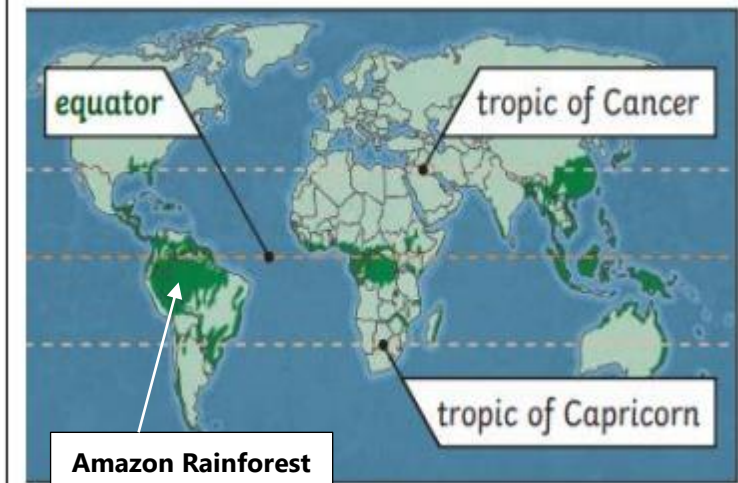
Human Geographical Features:



Physical Geographical Features:

Emergent Layer	Canopy Layer	Understory Layer	Forest Floor
			
Trees can be up to 60m tall	Trees form a roof over the plants below	Trees grow to less than 4m tall	Very few plants
Lots of sunlight	Lots of sunlight but also plenty of rain	Very little sunlight	Almost no sunlight
Cold and windy	Lots of food for animals	Warm and humid	Leaves and debris decompose quickly
Birds, bats, monkeys and butterflies	Snakes, toucans and tree frogs	Lots of insects	Gorillas, anteaters, leopards and tigers
			

Map / Key Places:



Sequence of Lessons - brief summary of lesson content:	
Lesson 1	Identify areas of the world containing rainforests.
Lesson 2	Explain the key aspects of a rainforest climate.
Lesson 3	Describe and understand the features of the layers of a rainforest.
Lesson 4	Describe the animals living in the rainforest.
Lesson 5	Compare the Amazon Rainforest with Sherwood Forest.
Lesson 6	Research and discover more about the plants of the rainforest.
Lesson 7	Explain the effects humans are having on the rainforests.
Lessons 8-9	Explore similarities and differences between their own culture and the culture of an Amazonian Tribe.
Lesson 10	Independently research, describe and understand key geographical features of a rainforest region such as climate, topography, major cities and rivers.