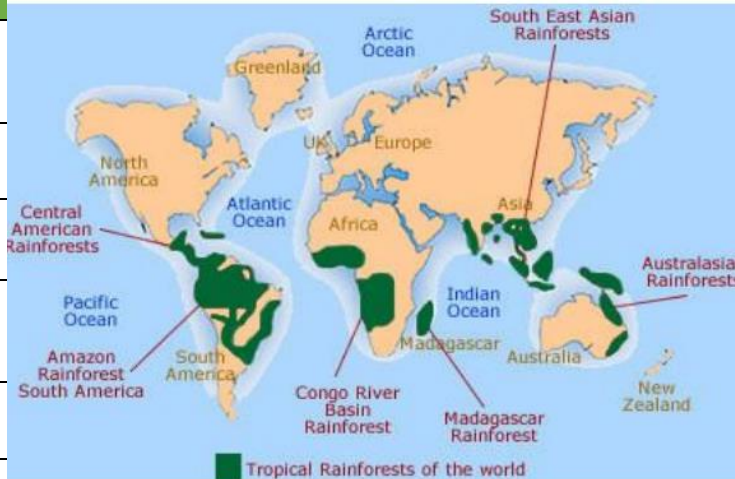


The Amazon Rainforest Knowledge Organiser

Subject specific Vocabulary

Canopy	Tall trees that with large leaves and thick branches that create a roof to the rainforest, preventing sunlight reaching the smaller plants
Climate	The average weather conditions over a long period of time.
Deforestation	Widespread clearing of trees, often to make way for plantations and buildings
Emergent layer	Tall trees that stand out above the canopy. Only the strongest trees are emergent as they have competed for the sunlight
Equator	An imaginary circle around the Earth which divides it into two equal parts.
Forest floor	It is dark due to the taller trees blocking out the sun so organisms decay quickly.
Humid	Feeling very damp due to water vapour in the air.
Lianas	Woody climbing plants that hang from trees
Precipitation	Water falling from clouds (e.g. rainfall, snow, hail)
Prime Meridian	The line of 0° longitude, the starting point for measuring distance both east and west around Earth
Tropical	Somewhere that is warm all year round, but which has rainy seasons.
Understory	A tangle of shrubs, young trees, saplings, palms and vines. It is hot and damp here and the air is very still
Weather	Day-to-day temperature, precipitation and wind



Sticky Knowledge

- Know that the rainforest is divided into four layers: Undergrowth, Understory, Canopy and Emergent Layer.
- Know deforestation is **the purposeful clearing of forested land**.
- Know how the humans and animals (and their habitats) that live in the Amazon are impacted by deforestation.
- Know some of the agencies and charities working to combat deforestation.
- Know that the Amazon rainforest is an example of a tropical rainforest biome however there are other biomes within it.

Topic Links

- *Y3 Flow - functions and uses of rivers for settlements.
- *Y4 Blue Abyss - sustainability of products and saving the environment
- *Y5 - London to Rio - biomes

Key Information

- * Biomes are large areas, or ecosystems, of the earth that have similar weather, climates, landscapes, animals and plants.
- * Some of the world's biomes are: desert, forest, grassland, Mediterranean Mountain, Polar, Tundra
- * A rainforest is a very dense, warm and wet forest with a tropical climate. They are habitats for millions of different animals and plants
- * The Amazon rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest in the world. It is found in the continent of South America and spreads across nine countries.
- * The world's rainforests are found on the equator, where it is humid, there is lots of rain and the sunlight is directly overhead
- * The second largest river in the world, the Amazon, runs through the Amazon rainforest. It is 4,345 miles (7000km) long.
- * A rainforest is made up of many different layers: canopy, emergent layer, understory, forest floor.
- * The emergent layer is made up of the tallest trees in the rainforest. Some can reach 70 metres tall. They have huge leafy crowns that spread out to catch as much sunlight as possible.
- * The dense leafy layer with trees about 40 metres tall. They spread their branches out to catch most of the sunlight and rain. This is the most popular place to live in the jungle.