

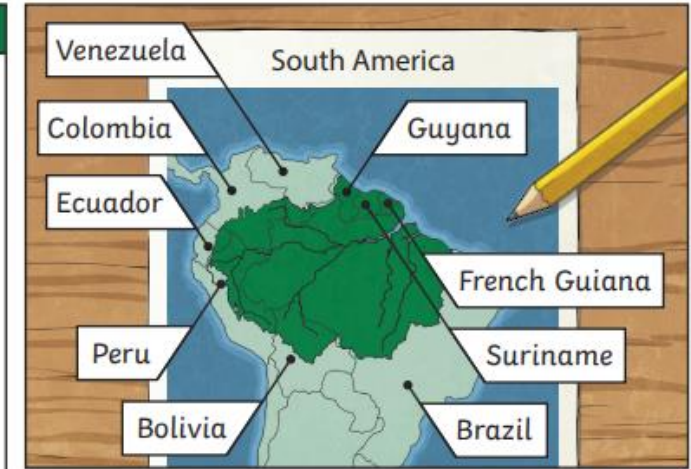


Rainforests

Key Vocabulary	
biome	A large naturally occurring community of plants and animals occupying a major habitat.
rainforest	An area of tall, mostly evergreen trees and a high amount of rainfall.
temperate	Having a moderate climate which lacks extremes in temperature
tropical	Warm and hot throughout the year
Equator	An imaginary line dividing the Earth into northern and southern hemispheres.
species	A group of similar organisms that are able to reproduce.
habitat	A natural home or environment of an animal or plant.
climate	The weather and temperature usually found in an area over a long period of time
biodiversity	All of the different kinds of life that is found in one area.
weather	The specific conditions on a given day
humid	Having a high level of moisture in the air.
native tribe	The original settlers of an era.
deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees
oxygen	It is a gas without colour, odor or taste which makes up 21% of the earths' atmosphere
carbon dioxide	It is a chemical compound that is usually in the form of a gas.
Climate change	It is a change in the typical weather for a region.

The Amazon Rainforest

- 5.5 million square km (previously covered a much larger area)
- Parts in Brazil, Peru, Colombia, 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



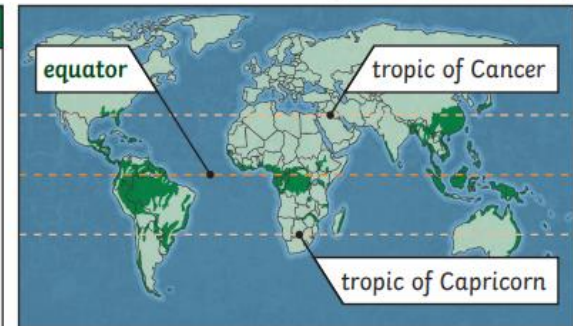
- 2 million tourists per year
- 170 different languages spoken
- 250 000 native tribes currently live there



Where in the World?

Rainforests are found near to the equator between the tropic of Cancer and the tropic of Capricorn. They can be found in every continent except Antarctica.

They are located in countries such as Brazil, India, Peru, Mexico, Australia and Malaysia.











Climate

The climate in the rainforest is the same all year round.

- Average rainfall of 6cm each month
- Usually rains every day
- Hot and humid

Layers of the rainforest

Emergent Layer	Canopy Layer	Understorey 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
			

How to protect the rainforest

Use both sides of a piece of paper, and use pencil until they are stubs

Use ebooks or a library rather than buying a new book.

Turn off lights and electrical items when not in use.

Buy Fairtrade fruit, vegetables, chocolate and coffee

Deforestation

Trees are cut down:

- to create fields for farming cattle and growing crops,
- to produce timber and wood pulp to make furniture and paper,
- to create space for housing.

Positive Impacts

- Jobs are created in logging and transporting timber and manufacturing products
- Selling land raises money for local people.

Negative Impacts

- People's homes are destroyed
- Animals and plants may become extinct through habitat loss.
- Plants that may have been useful could be lost.

