

National Curriculum – Geography

Locational knowledge: Identify the position of the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn and their significance..

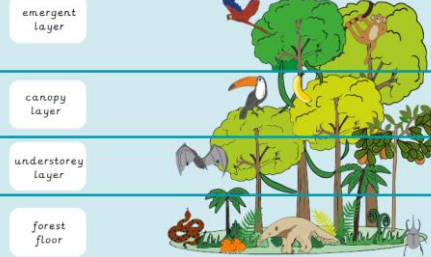
Place knowledge: developing a sense of children’s place in the world; comparing and contracting geographical areas to understand their characteristics and cultures; learning how places re interconnected and change over time.

Human and physical geography: understanding the relationship between humans and the environment; exploring the Earth’s natural features and processes; considering the impact of human activity on settlements; learning about land use, trade and natural resources. Learning about climate zones and biomes. Locating key physical features in countries studied including significant environmental regions.

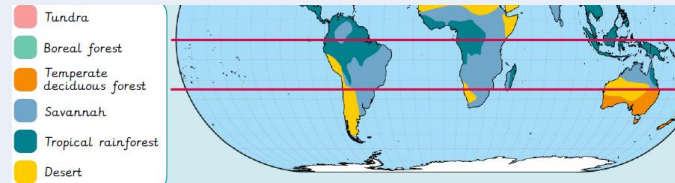
Geography skills and fieldwork: locating some countries in Europe and North and South America using maps. Using atlases, maps and globes, satellite images.

Lines of enquiry

Who lives in the rainforest?



Where in the world are tropical rainforests ?



How are rainforests changing?

How have plants adapted in the Amazon rainforest?



Thin, smooth bark ensures rain can run off trees easily.



Buttress roots keep tall trees stable in the wet soil and strong winds.



Drip tips mean rain can run off leaves without damaging them.



Lianas (vines) wind their way up other plants to reach sunlight.

Vocabulary

Global warming: when our Earth’s temperature rises because of greenhouse gases.

Mining: the process of digging up valuable minerals from the Earth’s crust.

Logging: the cutting down of trees.

Deforestation: the cutting down of trees in a large area.

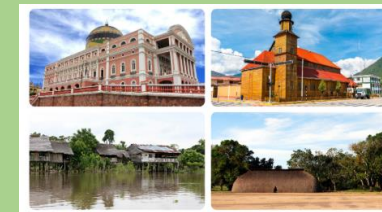
Emergent layer: the top layer of the rainforest.

Canopy layer: the layer of overlapping branches and leaves below the top of the rainforest that gets sunlight, rain and wind.

Understorey layer: the warm and damp layer that gets little light.

Forest floor: the ground layer where it is dark, wet and hot.

Biome: an area of the world with a similar climate and landscape, where similar plants and animals live.



Session	KEY LEARNING:
1	Where in the world are tropical rainforests? Review previous knowledge. Matching biomes activity. Paired Amazon photo activity. Amazon fact activity using maps and atlases.
2	What is the Amazon rainforest like? Recap and recall. Describing layers of the rainforest. Discussing how plants have adapted to their environment. Label and create own tropical rainforest.
3	Who lives in the rainforest? Learning about the indigenous people of the Amazon rainforest. Exploring Amazon architecture. Comparing maps activity and discussion on uses of the rainforest.
4	How are rainforests changing? Exploring the importance of rainforests and the threats to the Amazon. Letter to Brazil's president to highlight issues and threats. Extended writing opportunity.
5	How is our local woodland used? Data Collection. Local fieldwork using tally charts and questionnaires to explore key question. Question, collect, record.
6	How is our local woodland used? Findings. Complete enquiry cycle by presenting finding. End of unit assessment.