

Around The World in a Rainforest - KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Key Questions

What are the layers of the rainforest?
 Can I name and locate 4 of the countries in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres?
 What plants and animals are suited to live in the different layers of the rainforest?

STICKY LEARNING

By the end of this unit what should pupils know?

To correctly identify the layers of a rainforest using a labelled diagram – forest floor, understory, canopy, emergent layer.

To know the names of four countries from the southern and four from the northern hemisphere.

To identify the different plants and animals that live in each layer of the rainforest and describe how they are suited to this habitat, including animals that pass between layers.

To know that there are three main type of forest biome and provide a basic description of the main features of each, including climate: tropical, temperate and taiga forests.

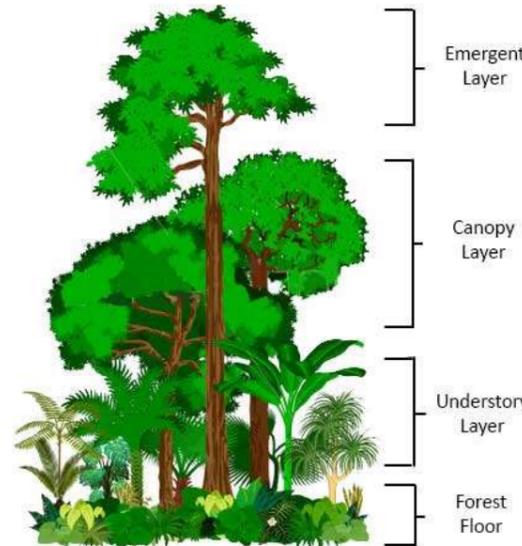
To locate temperate forests, tropical rainforests and Taiga forests on a world map

To research the lives of people who live in the rainforest, and present their findings.

To understand and use the term vegetation belt to describe the plant life in a whole area.

To understand and use the term biome to describe an area which has a dominant climate or vegetation type.

YEAR 3 SUMMER 2021



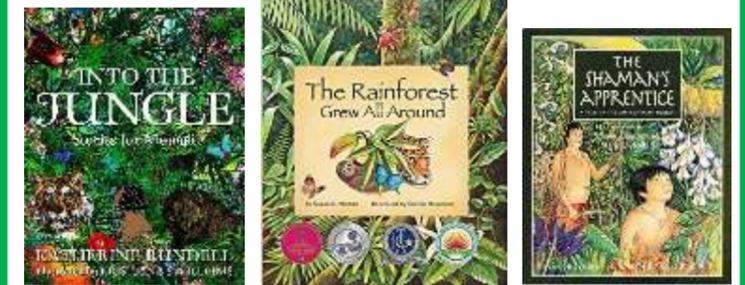
Main Rainforests

- Amazon Rainforest
- Congo Rainforest
- Valdivian Temperate Rainforest
- Dantree Rainforest
- Southeast Asian Rainforest

Facts and information

- Only 2% of light reaches the forest floor.
- Around 60million people still live in the rainforests and depend on the surroundings.
- The rainforests are home to over half of the world's animals and plants.
- Pineapples, potatoes, coffee are just some of the food that came from rain-forests.
- The plants of the rainforest provide 20% of the earth's oxygen.

BOOKS



Layers of the Rainforest

Emergent Layer	Canopy
 <p>The emergent layer is the name given to the very tops of trees that grow above the canopy level. There is lots of sunshine and rainfall here, and only the strongest and tallest plants grow to this height. Anything above 45 metres (150 feet) are emergent, however some trees can grow to a massive 70 metres (230 feet)! Only some birds, bats, butterflies and small monkeys live here.</p>	 <p>The canopy is a dense layer of vegetation at around 30-45 metres (100-150 feet). It is sometimes called the 'ceiling' of the rainforest, as it blocks a great deal of sunlight with its thick, overlapping leaves. As a result, the layers below the canopy level are often quite shaded. Lots of animals: e.g. insects, bats, birds and monkeys can be found in the canopy layer.</p>
Understory/ Shrub Layer	Forest Floor
 <p>The understory level is a muddle of intertwining shrubs, young trees, vines, saplings, and palms. It is very hot and damp here, and the air very still. Compared to the canopy, plants here receive little sunlight. This lack of light limits the growth of plants, and so they must have special adaptations in order to survive here. For example, leaves on plants here tend to be much broader. Snakes, lizards and sloths are examples of animals living here.</p>	 <p>The forest floor is exceptionally hot and humid, due to the constant shade from the levels above. Despite this, the forest floor remains an important part of the rainforest's eco-system. The forest floor is where decomposition takes place – dead plants and animals are broken down and their nutrients recycled. Most of the largest animals of the rainforest live here, for example elephants, tigers, the tapir and the jaguar.</p>
Where are the Rainforests?	
<p>Rainforests are usually found between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn (the tropics), where it is close to the Equator. It is very warm and there is lots of rainfall.</p> <p>The biggest rainforest in the world is the Amazon rainforest in South America. These are the locations of the 10 largest rainforests in the world (not in order): Mexico, Venezuela, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Suriname, Peru, Congo DRC, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea.</p>	



KEY VOCABULARY

Rainforest – A dense forest, normally found in tropical areas with high rainfall. They generate much of the world's oxygen

Country – A nation with its own government e.g. UK, USA, Germany, Denmark, Brazil, China

Continent – The world's main continuous pieces of land (Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America, South America, Antarctica)

Ecosystem – A community of plants and animals that depend on each other to survive

Deforestation – The action of clearing a wide area of trees

Habitat – The natural home or environment of an animal, plant or organism

Interdependent – When two or more people or things rely on each other

