

# What is the importance of tropical rainforests?

## Vocabulary:

tropical rainforest

location

Hemisphere

Equator

Tropic of Cancer

Tropic of Capricorn

biome

vegetation

continent

environment

biodiversity

emergent layer

canopy layer

understory

forest floor

latitude

longitude

temperate

climate

habitat

indigenous

endangered

extinct

agriculture

deforestation

Ecosystem

a forest occurring in tropical areas of heavy rainfall.

Where something is, its place.

The Earth is a sphere, which we split into Northern hemisphere and southern hemisphere.

The imaginary line that runs around the middle of the Earth. Lines of latitude around 23 degrees north and south of the equator.

an area classified according to the species that live there.

Plants found in a particular area or habitat.

The world's main continuous expanses of land.

The surroundings or conditions.

Variety of plant or animal life in a particular habitat

The tops of the tallest trees in the rainforest.

The overlapping leaves and branches of the trees of the rainforest. (the shortest trees)

The lower branches of trees in the rainforest.

The lowest layer of the rainforest.

A measure of location north or south of the equator.

A measure of location east or west of the Greenwich meridian line.

A region or climate of mild temperatures.

Normal/average weather conditions in an area.

Natural home or environment of an animal.

People/life that originates in the country in which it is found.

Seriously at risk of extinction.

There are no longer any of these left alive in the world.

Activities that relate to farming/food production.

Cutting down of forests and the land is permanently used for something else.

A community of living things that all relate to and depend on each other in different ways.

## What I should already know:

What the equator is, shape of the world, continents. Climate is different in different parts of the world. How to use an atlas, maps and keys. Different places in the world have different climates and features which means life is different there.

## Enquiry questions:

What is a rainforest? Where are they in the world? (tropical/temperate)

What are biomes; what is an ecosystem?

What are the different layers in a rainforest?

What is the link between the equator, hemispheres, tropics and rainforests?

What is the climate like in a rainforest?

What species/animals live in a rainforest?

Where is the Amazon rainforest and how is land used in the Amazon rainforest?

How are rainforests under threat and why does this matter? Why are they important?

## New Knowledge:

The tropical rain forests are all located near the equator in Africa, Asia, Australia and Central and South America.

Location of the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn are.

The most famous Rainforest is the Amazon Rainforest.

The climate in rainforests is hot and wet all year round.

Rainforests are often called the lungs of the planet for their role in absorbing carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, and increasing local humidity. Rainforests also stabilize climate, house incredible amounts of plants and wildlife, and produce nourishing rainfall all around the planet.

There are 4 layers to the rainforest: emergent, canopy, understory and forest floor. Deforestation is when forests are cut down and the area is permanently cleared for another use.

There are many animals that are native to rainforests. Many are endangered species in the rainforest.

Many ingredients found in medicines come from the plants found in the rainforests.

Many tribes live in the rainforests, known as indigenous people.

There are activities and events that are putting the rainforest at risk.



Brazil/ Papua New Guinea

