

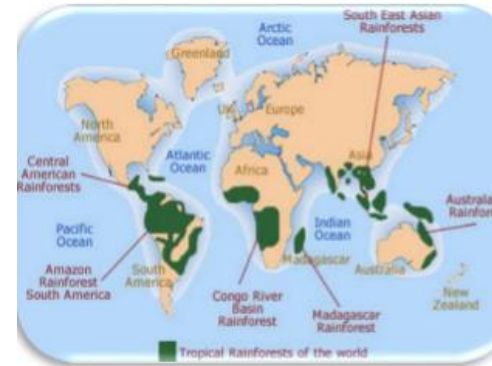
Amazon Explorers

Year 4



What should I already know?

- Where South America is on a map/globe
- South America is one of the seven continents
- Know that a country is a nation with its own government, e.g. UK, USA and Germany
- A habitat is the natural home or environment of an animal, plant or organism



Causes of deforestation

- To clear space for farming: growing crops (e.g. soya beans & palm oil) and space cattle to generate cheap beef.
- Chopping down trees for wood.
- To build roads to mine for metals, gold & diamonds. To dig for oil.
- To flood areas to make dams & generate electricity.

What is the impact of deforestation?

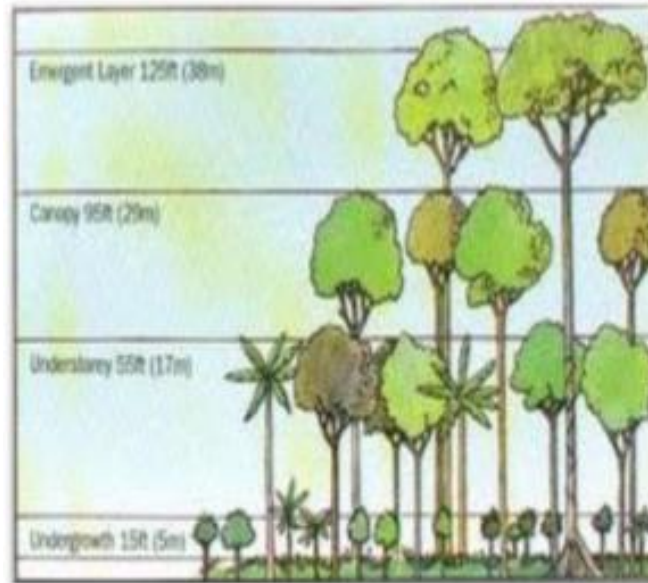
- An area the size of 20 football pitches is destroyed every 60 seconds.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ of the tropical rainforests we had are gone. 28,000 species of animals are expected to become extinct in the next 25 years.
- Local people's homes are destroyed.
- Levels of carbon dioxide in the air are increasing and oxygen is decreasing.

Geographical skills and enquiry

- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping.
- Use the eight compass directions to describe locations.
- Follow a route on a simple map.
- Draw a detailed map with symbols and a key.
- Use four figure grid references.
- Understand the water cycle
- Understand land use, economic activity (including trade links), and the distribution of natural resources

Location, Layers and Features

1	Equator	Imaginary line through the middle of the Earth that receives the most sunlight.
2	Tropic of Cancer Tropic of Capricorn	Imaginary lines north and south of the equator. Most rainforests can be found between these two lines.
3	<i>Emergent Layer</i>	Giant trees that enjoy the most sun but high winds & cold.
4	<i>Canopy</i>	Dense layer of trees overlapping each other. Home to most animals in rainforests.
5	<i>Understory</i>	Relatively dark, open area below the canopy.
6	<i>Undergrowth</i>	Also known as the forest floor, mainly consisting of fallen leaves, fruit etc. that decomposes as food for trees.
7	<i>Flora & Fauna</i>	Flora = Plants; Fauna = Animals.
8	<i>Nocturnal</i>	Animal that comes out at night. Sleeps during the day.
9	<i>Camouflage</i>	Blending in to hide in the natural environment.
10	<i>Mimicry</i>	Copying the look, sound or behaviour of something.



Interesting facts	
1	Rainforests cover approximately 6% of the Earth's surface by contain more than ½ of the world's plants. About 90% of organisms are found in the canopy.
2	About 30 million species of plants and animals live in tropical rainforests.
3	There are two types of rainforests – Tropical and Temperate . Tropical rainforests are generally warmer than temperate ones.
4	Many things we have in our homes come from rainforests including: chocolate, sugar, rubber, bamboo and many medicines.