

Topic Knowledge Organiser

Year: 3/4 Term: Summer Term 1

Remarkable Rainforests

Prior knowledge/key knowledge

- Prior knowledge**
Year 3/4
- Knowledge of continents and oceans
 - Use of maps and atlases
 - Understanding of different habitats

Understand biomes and vegetation belts.
Locate rainforests on a map.

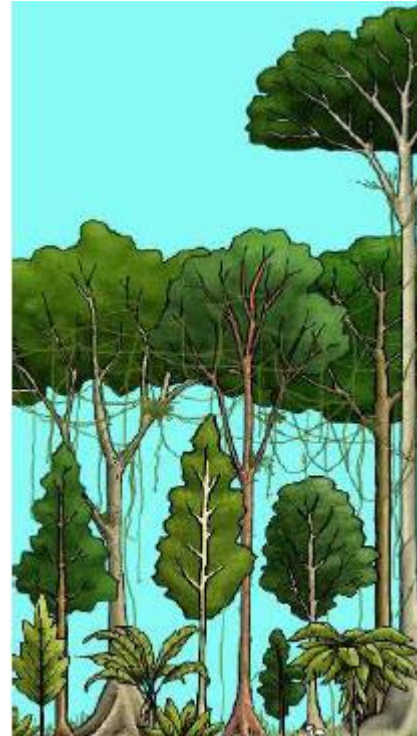
Identify the different layers of the rainforest.
Identify and understand the significance of the Equator, hemispheres and tropics.

Investigate and understand the climate zone of a rainforest.
Locate and explore the Amazon Rainforest.

Identify animals that live in the rainforest.
Identify how land is used in the Amazon Rainforest.

Understand why rainforests are under threat.

Write an information text to show knowledge and understanding of the unit's learning.



Big Questions/Challenging Perceptions

What will happen to my Big Mac if forests are not cut down?

Discuss the effects of deforestation on both rainforest relationships and how it affects Western lifestyles.



Vocabulary

biome	A large naturally occurring community of plants and animals that have common characteristics for the environment in which they exist
vegetation	Plants considered collectively in a particular habitat
continents	Main continuous expanse of land
environment	Surroundings or conditions in which a living thing exists
rainforest	Dense forest rich in biodiversity found in tropical areas
biodiversity	Variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat
emergent layer	Tallest layer of the rainforest
canopy layer	Second tallest layer
understory	Plant life growing beneath the canopy
forest floor	Ground beneath the trees of the forest (roots, soil etc)
equator	Line drawn around the centre of the earth
Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn	Parallels of latitude 23° 27' north/south of the Equator
latitude	Lines running horizontally around the earth