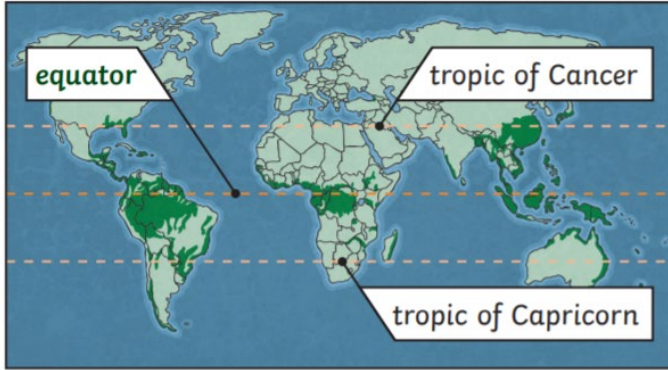


Location

Rainforests are found near to the equator between the tropic of Cancer and the tropic of Capricorn.

They can be found in every continent except Antarctica.

They are located in countries such as Brazil, India, Peru, Mexico, Australia and Malaysia.



Climate

The climate in the rainforest is the same all year round.

- Average rainfall of 6cm each month
- Usually rains every day
- Hot and humid

Year 4 Knowledge Organiser

Rainforests

Deforestation

Trees in the rainforest are cut down:

- to create fields for farming cattle and growing crops,
- to produce timber and wood pulp to make furniture and paper,
- to create space for housing.

Positive impacts

- Jobs are created in logging and transporting timber and manufacturing products.
- Selling land raises money for local people.

Negative impacts

- People's homes are destroyed.
- Animals and plants may become extinct through habitat loss.
- Plants that may have been useful could be lost.

Key Vocabulary

climate	The average weather conditions over a long period of time.
deforestation	The cutting down and clearing of forests.
equator	An imaginary circle running round the centre of the earth.
humid	Feeling very damp due to water vapour in the air.
first nation tribes	The original settlers of an area.
species	A group of similar animals or plants
weather	The specific condition on a given day.

The Amazon Rainforest



- 5.5 million square km (previously covered a much larger area)
- Parts in Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana
- 2.5 million insect species
- 40 000+ plant species
- 3 000 edible fruits
- 2 000+ species of birds and mammals
- 2 million tourists per year
- 170 different languages spoken
- 250 000 native tribes currently live there

Layers of the rainforest

Emergent Layer



- Trees can be up to 60m tall.
- Lots of sunlight
- Cold and windy
- Birds, bats, monkeys and butterflies

Canopy Layer



- Trees form a roof over the plants below
- Lots of sunlight but also plenty of rain
- Lots of food for animals
- Snakes, toucans and tree frogs

Understorey Layer



- Trees grow to less than 4m tall
- Very little sunlight
- Warm and humid
- Lots of insects

Forest Floor



- Very few plants
- Almost no sunlight
- Leaves and debris decompose quickly
- Gorillas, anteaters, leopards and tigers