

Uplands Junior School Knowledge Organiser

Subject: Geography

Topic: Rainforests (Amazon) and Brazil

Year: 3

Diagrams

Rainforest of the world



Amazon Rainforest and Brazil



*The Amazon is the largest tropical forest in the world, covering more than five million square km across nine countries: Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela.

*The Amazon Rainforest is classed as a tropical rainforest as it receives high average temperatures and high average rainfall. The climate in tropical forests is typically warm and wet.

*The Amazon is situated within a belt around the equator.

*The Amazon River is located in South America. It runs through Guyana, Ecuador, Venezuela, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Peru. The length of the Amazon River is approximately 6400 km.

Geography knowledge

*Rainforest habitats are forests located around the tropics, which is a zone around the equator.

There are five main spots where rainforest habitats are located - Africa, Asia, Australia, Central America and South America.

The largest rainforest habitat in the world is the Amazon rainforest in South America.

Rainforests are full of millions of different kinds of plants, animals and insects - some haven't even been discovered yet!

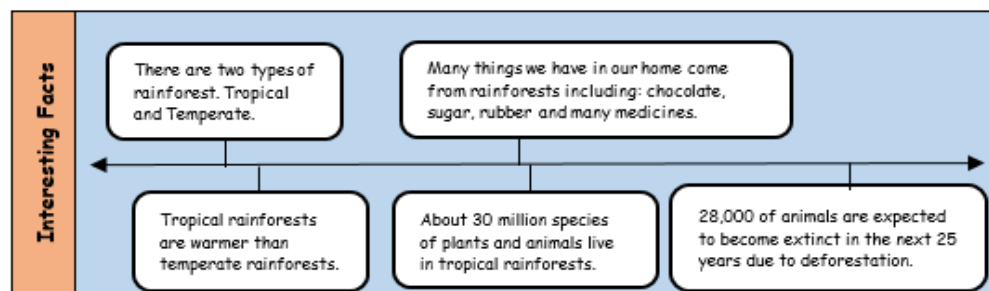
About 80% of life in the rainforest can be found in the canopy, which is where the branches and leaves of most of the trees join up to form a kind of umbrella.

Other layers of the rainforest are emergent, which are trees that grow a bit taller than the canopy; the understory, which is the bit just below the canopy; then shrubs below that; then the ground.

Animals and reptiles move around the canopy by flying, jumping, swinging on vines and gliding.

*Deforestation is when forests are converted for other purposes by cutting down the trees to clear the land for other use.

* Amazon tribes exist in the Amazon Rainforest. Some of these tribes do not have any contact with the outside world. These groups have their own society where children do not go to a school but instead, when they are old enough, are taught what they need to know from their elders.



Geography skills

- *Use atlases and maps to find rainforests, focusing on the Amazon and Brazil and explain what the climate is like.
- *Label maps to show where rainforests can be located.
- *Identify the position and significance of Northern and southern hemisphere, tropics of cancer and Capricorn and the equator.
- *Study the boundaries of Brazil.
- *Follow the route on a map, understand and make a simple scale drawing.
- *Explain how deforestation can impact the earth.
- *Use 4 compass points to follow/give directions.
- *Use letter/no. co-ordinates to locate features on a map.
- *Begin to ask/initiate geographical questions.
- *Use books, atlases, pictures, photos and internet as sources of information.
- *Begin to collect and record evidence
- *Analyse evidence and begin to draw conclusions e.g. make comparisons between two locations (Brazil and UK) using photos/ pictures, temperatures in different locations.

Key vocabulary

Biomes	a large region of Earth that has a certain climate and certain types of living things.
Canopy	Tallest layer of trees in a forest
Climate	the general weather conditions that are typical of a place
Deforestation	the destruction of trees over large areas
Emergent layer	very tall rainforest trees that rise above all other trees around them
Equator	an imaginary line around the centre of the earth where it is hot
Indigenous	a living thing that belongs naturally to an area
Northern hemisphere	half of Earth that is north of the Equator.
Southern hemisphere	half of Earth that is south of the Equator.
Temperate	places where it is neither very hot or very cold
Tropical	around the middle of the earth, in the region called the Tropics, where it is very warm all year
Tropics of Cancer	an imaginary latitude line above the equator that runs across the globe at about 23 degrees north.
Tropics of Capricorn	an imaginary latitude line above the equator that runs across the globe at about 23 degrees south
Understory	the layer of vegetation in a forest below the canopy but above the ground

Prior knowledge to consolidate every year for the Geography quiz

- *Name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans.
- *Locate the four countries and capital of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas.
- *Locate the world's countries, to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) North and South America.