Rainforests & Brazil KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



ESSENTIAL RAINFORESTS VOCABULARY	
climate	The average weather conditions over a long period of time
deforestation	The cutting down and clearing of forests.
equator	A 'line' around the earth dividing it into northern and southern hemispheres.
humid	A high amount of water or water vapour in the air.
species	A group of living organisms that can breed with one another.
canopy	A layer of the rainforest made up of overlapping branches and leaves.
understory	The underlying layer of vegetation made up of short trees and shrubs.
emergent	The tops of the trees that poke up above the canopy.
ecosystem	A community or group of living organisms that live in a specific environment.
fertile	Capable of producing vegetation or crops
rainforest	A dense rainforest found in tropical areas with consistent heavy rainfall.
habitat	The natural home or environment of an animal, place or other organism.
oxygen	One of the main elements that make up the air that many living things breathe.
mammal	A warm-blooded animal that has hair/ fur, feeds young with milk and gives birth to live young.
amphibian	A cold blooded animal that can live and breathe on land or in water.

Rainforest Locations

Tropical rainforests are located near to the equator between the tropic of Cancer and the topic of Capricorn. They can be found in every continent except Antarctica.

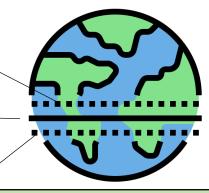
They are found in countries such as Australia, Brazil, India, Peru, Mexico and Malaysia.



Tropic of Cancer

Equator

Tropic of Capricorn

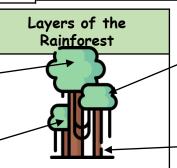


Emergent Layer

Trees can grow up to 60m at this layer. There is plenty of sunlight, and it is cold and windy. Birds, bats and monkeys are found here.

Understory Layer

Trees at this layer grow to less than 4m tall. There is very little sunlight, but it is warm and humid. Plenty of insects are found here!



Canopy Layer

Trees at this layer form a type of roof. There is plenty of sunlight, but also lots of rain. Snakes, birds and tree frogs are found here.

Forest Floor

There are very few plants at this layer as there is almost no sunlight. Leaves decompose very quickly. Gorillas, anteaters and leopards are found here.

Henri Rousseau (1844-1910) - was a French postimpressionist painter best known for paintings depicting jungle scenes even though he had never left France!

MAKING LINKS TO PREVIOUS LEARNING

- to locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe, North and South America.
- to identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Northern and Southern Hemisphere.



Effects of Deforestation

- Fewer plant and animal species
- Loss of habitats for animals
- Loss of sources of medicine
- Soil erosion which can lead to flooding
- Global warming and rising sea levels
- Selling land raises money for local people
- Jobs are created in different areas.

The Amazon Rainforest

- Parts are found in 9 different South American countries, including Brazil.
- Covers 5.5 million square km.
- 2 million tourists every year.
- 2,000 + species of birds and mammals
- 2.5 million insect species
- 40,000+ plant species
- 3.000 edible fruits
- World's largest rainforest
- Home to the Amazon river
- Home to 250,000 native tribes