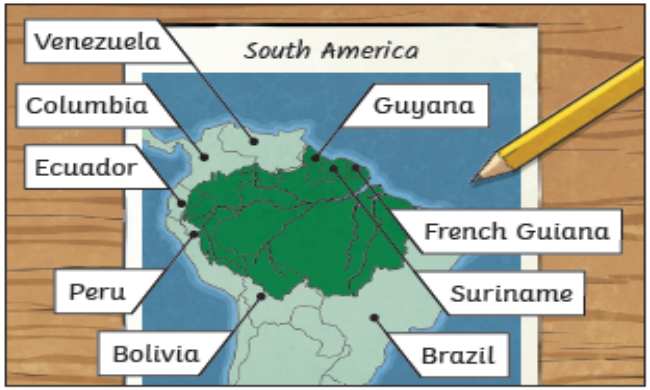
Under the Canopy – Knowledge Organiser KS2

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.
native 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, Columbia, 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

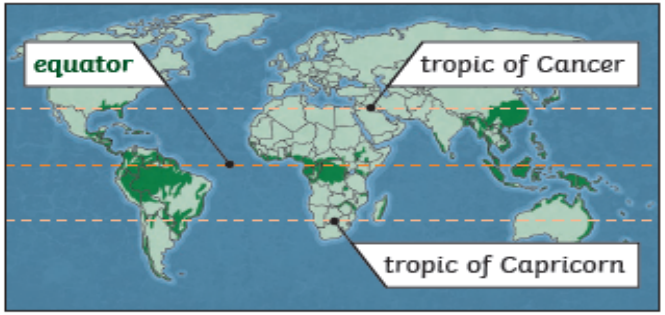


Where in the World?

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

Under the Canopy – Knowledge Organiser KS2

Emergent Layer	Canopy Layer	Understory Layer	Forest Floor
			
Trees can be up to 60m tall	Trees form a roof over the plants below	Trees grow to less than 4m tall	Very few plants
Lots of sunlight	Lots of sunlight but also plenty of rain	Very little sunlight	Almost no sunlight
Cold and windy	Lots of food for animals	Warm and humid	Leaves and debris decompose quickly
Birds, bats, monkeys and butterflies	Snakes, toucans and tree frogs	Lots of insects	Gorillas, anteaters, leopards and tigers
			

Deforestation

Trees 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	Negative Impacts
• Jobs are created in logging and transporting timber and manufacturing products. • Selling land raises money for local people.	• People's homes are destroyed. • Animals and plants may become extinct through habitat loss. • Plants that may have been useful could be lost.

What Can Be Done to Protect the Rainforest?

Use both sides of a piece of paper, and use pencils until they are stubs.	Use ebooks or a library rather than buying new books.
Turn off lights and electrical items when not in use.	Buy Fairtrade fruit, vegetables, chocolate and coffee.

