



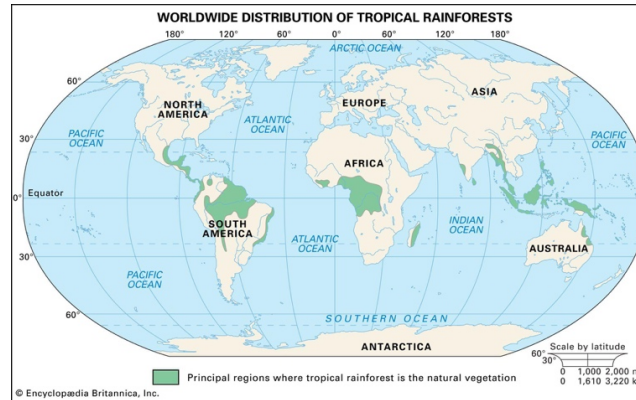
Year 6 Term 5

Why are rainforests so important?

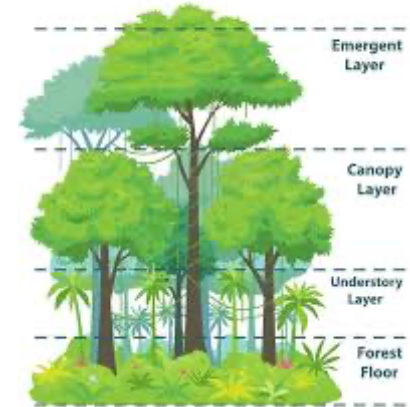


Key vocabulary	
Rainforest	Dense forest with high rainfall and biodiversity
Biome	Region with similar climate, plants, and animals
Climate	Long-term weather patterns
Latitude	Distance from the Equator
Biodiversity	Variety of living things
Ecosystem	Living things interacting with environment
Interdependence	Living things rely on each other
Canopy	Top layer of rainforest
Understory	Layer below canopy
Forest Floor	Dark, lowest layer
Emergent Layer	Highest trees above canopy
Deforestation	Cutting down forests
Indigenous Tribes	Native people of a region

Key knowledge:



RAINFOREST LAYERS



Skills - We are geographers!

1. Collect and analyse data using: Photos and aerial images, Maps, atlases, globes, GIS, Charts and graphs	
2. Interpret information: Climate maps, Physical and political maps, Graphs and data	
3. Think critically & evaluate: Explain human impact (e.g. deforestation), Use evidence to reach conclusions, Understand that knowledge can change with new data	

- Climate & Location:** Rainforests are found between 23.5°N and 23.5°S (Tropics). The Amazon Rainforest lies on the Equator. Climate is **hot, humid, and rainy all year** with equal day and night lengths.
- Biomes & Interdependence:** A **biome** is a region with similar climate, plants, and animals. Rainforests have very high **biodiversity**. Plants and animals depend on each other (**interdependence**) for survival.
- Physical Features of Rainforests:** Four layers: **emergent, canopy, understory, forest floor**. Each layer has different light, temperature, and living organisms. Only about **2% of sunlight** reaches the forest floor.
- The Amazon & Its Importance:** The Amazon River is the **lifeline** of the rainforest. Used for transport as there are few roads. The Amazon covers **5.5 million km^2** across multiple countries.
- Human Impact & Importance:** Rainforests are home to **indigenous tribes** and unique cultures. **Deforestation** (farming, mining, cattle ranching) **destroys habitats**. Rainforests help regulate **climate**, absorb CO_2 , and protect biodiversity. If destruction continues, rainforests could disappear in the future.