

Geography Unit: The Rainforest

Vocabulary

biodiversity	Is the variety of wildlife and plants in a particular habitat, such as the rainforest.
climate	The weather conditions over a long period of time in a particular area.
deforestation	The clearing of a wide area of forest by cutting down or burning trees.
deciduous	Trees that lose their leaves for a season.
equator	An imaginary line drawn around the middle of the earth an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole.
evergreen	Trees that are green and in leaf all year round.
natural resource	Something that is created by nature but then used by humans for their benefit, such as burning fossil fuels for heating homes and driving cars.
rainforest layers	The emergent layer is where the tallest trees can be found. Beneath is the canopy of thick vegetation, the top of most trees. Below the canopy is the dark, humid understory. The forest floor receives only 2% sunlight.
settlement	A place where people choose to live and physically alter.
tribe	A group of people, who live together, sharing the same language culture and history.
tropical rainforest	A tropical forest, usually of tall, densely growing, broad-leaved evergreen trees in an area of high annual rainfall.
tropics	The region of the Earth near to the Equator and between the Tropic of Cancer in the Northern Hemisphere and the Tropic of Capricorn in the Southern Hemisphere.

People and Places

Amazon Rainforest	The Amazon is a vast biome that spans eight rapidly developing countries— Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, and Suriname —and French Guiana, an overseas territory of France.
Amazon River	The Amazon River is located in the northern portion of South America , flowing from west to east. The river system originates in the Andes Mountains of Peru and travels through Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, and Brazil before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean
Yanomami Tribe	Yanomami Tribe . The Yanomami are the largest relatively isolated tribe in South America. They live in the rainforests and mountains of northern Brazil and southern Venezuela
South America	The mainland of South America is divided into 12 different countries and one territory—so 13 in total. A territory is a piece of land, or a country that is ruled by another country. French Guiana is in South America but is actually ruled by France. The continent is famous for the Andes Mountains, Atacama Desert and the Amazon Rainforest and River. The largest and most populous country is Brazil, whose main language is Portuguese. The other main language of the continent is Spanish. The majority religion is Roman Catholic.

National Curriculum	Key Enquiry Question	Key Substantive Concepts	Building On From
Locational Knowledge: South America Place Knowledge: A regional within South America Human and Physical: biomes, rivers, the water cycle biomes, rivers, settlement and land use	What is the Amazon, why is it significant and why should it be protected?	Locational, Physical Environment, Human, Change and Sustainability.	Year 3: Mapping My World and United Kingdom & Italy

Enquiry Question	Geographical Lens	Key Knowledge	Map skills/Field work	Key Vocabulary
What are the key physical features of South America?	Space and Scale Physical environment	-South America is a continent in the Southern Hemisphere. -There are many different climate zones across South America. -Physical geography is about the natural world. -Human geography is about the human impact on the world.	Atlases Google maps	climate - climate zone continent hemisphere human interaction
What are the key human features of South America?	Human	-Mainland South America is made up of 12 different independent countries and 1 territory. -A territory is land or a country ruled by another country -Each country has its own capital city and population size. -There are various religions, languages, and currencies across South America. -There are different industries across South America, with countries exporting a range of different products.	Atlases	currency export industries language population religion territory
What are tropical rainforests and where are they found?	Space and Scale Physical Environment	-A tropical rainforest is an area with tall evergreen trees. -They have hot temperatures and high amounts of rainfall all year. -They are located along the Equator (in the equatorial climate zone) -The Amazon Rainforest is the world's largest tropical rainforest.	Atlases Global weather map (Weather comparison, Bingham to the Amazon)	equator humid rainfall temperature tropical rainforest
What is it like inside a tropical rainforest?	Physical Environment	-Tropical rainforests have four different layers: emergent layer, canopy layer, understory layer, and forest floor. -Each layer has certain characteristics. -Each layer has access to differing amounts of sunlight and rainfall.		canopy deciduous emergent evergreen forest floor

Possible Texts	Possible Maths / English Links	Possible Enrichment
The Explorer - Katherine Rundell The Boy who grew a rainforest - Sophia Ghultz	-maths: weather measurements and recording	-animal experience (linked to science unit: living things and their habitats)

Enquiry Question	Geographical Lens	Key Knowledge	Map skills/Field work	Key Vocabulary
Which animals live in the tropical rainforest?	Physical Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tropical rainforests are home to many animals. -The animals within a rainforest have adapted to live there, and only there. -The characteristics of the animals depend on the layer of the rainforest they live within. -Some animals move between the layers of the rainforest. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adapted camouflage decomposer predator prey species
Who lives in the Amazon rainforest?	Human	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Amazon Rainforest is home to many different indigenous people and their settlements. -Some tribes are known to us and some are still uncontacted. -The people within the tribes live a traditional way of life. -There are similarities and differences between the tribes. -The Yanomami tribe is the largest in the Amazon Rainforest. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ancestors hammock indigenous nomadic settlement traditional tribe
How and why is life different in the Amazon rainforest and Bingham	Human	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Bingham is in the temperate climate zone (The Amazon, tropical) -Bingham's weather varies seasonally (The Amazon is consistent) -Bingham has mainly deciduous trees (The Amazon evergreen) -Bingham is a market town connected by road and rail to the city -The Amazon is made of small villages connect by trekking (regrowth over pathways) and the Amazon river. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparative weather observation results Comparative observation of woodland (visual and soundscapes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> biodiversity climate settlement type way of life
What is happening to the Amazon rainforest?	Change and Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Amazon Rainforest is the largest remaining rainforest. -Large areas of the rainforest are being cut down to allow a different land use. -There are mixed opinions on deforestation, with positives and negatives of changing land use. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> agriculture cattle ranching clearing deforestation logging
What does the future look like for the Amazon Rainforest?	Change and Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Many species of plants and animals, as well as indigenous people are losing their homes. -There are alternative economic revenues available from the rainforest (tourism) -We can do more to protect the rainforest. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> economy conservation sustainability threat tourism
What is the Amazon, why is it significant and should it be protected?	Summative for the Unit	Summative for the Unit		Summative for the Unit