

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School



Subject: Geography

Topic: The Rainforest

Year: 4

What should I already know?

- How natural and man-made changes to the environment affect living things and their habitats.
- The five animal groups.
- What a vertebrate and invertebrate are.
- About some rainforests in the world.
- The stages of the water cycle.
- What plants need to grow.
- What animals need to live.



What am I going to learn?

- There are four main types of forests around the world: temperate deciduous forest, temperate coniferous forest, boreal forest and tropical rainforest.
- Rainforests are found between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.
- There are no seasons in rainforests – the climate is the same all year round.
- A rainforest can be split up into layers: the Emergent layer, the Canopy layer, the Understory layer and the Forest Floor.
- Animals and plants that live in each layer. They choose different habitats depending on their diet, how much water they need and how much shelter they need.
- The Amazon is 5,500,000 square kilometres of rainforest, with parts in Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.
- Sherwood Forest is 4.23 square kilometres of forest in Nottinghamshire.
- Deforestation is when trees are chopped down for other purposes and this affects living things and their habitats.

Vocabulary

Boreal: Of the north or northern regions.

Climate: The usual weather conditions in a place.

Deciduous: Having leaves that drop off each year.

Deforestation: The act or process of cutting down the trees of a forest.

Erosion: Wearing away of the earth's surface by wind or water.

Forecast: A guess or estimate about something that will happen in the future.

Habitat: The natural environment of an animal or plant.

Rainforest: A dense evergreen forest, mostly found in tropical areas, that receives a large amount of rain all year long.

Tribe: A group of people, families, or villages that share the same language, social customs, and ancestors.



Useful Websites

- DK Find out: Rainforests
- BBC Bitesize: What is a rainforest habitat?
- National Geographic
- The School Run: Rainforest habitats