

Year 4 – Our Vanishing Planet

Spring 1

Key vocabulary

Rainforest A dense forest, normally found in tropical areas with high rainfall.

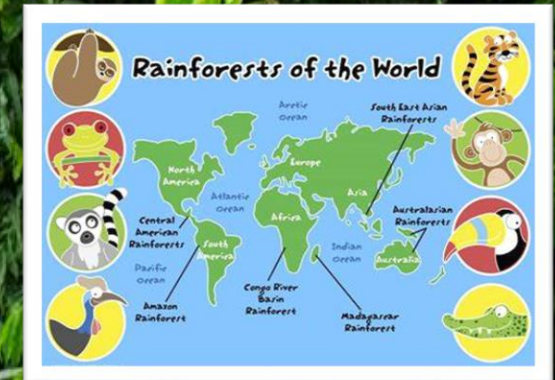
Continent The world's main continuous pieces of land (Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America, South America, Antarctica)

Habitat The natural home or environment of an animal, plant or organism

Equator Imaginary line around the middle of the earth that receives the most sunshine

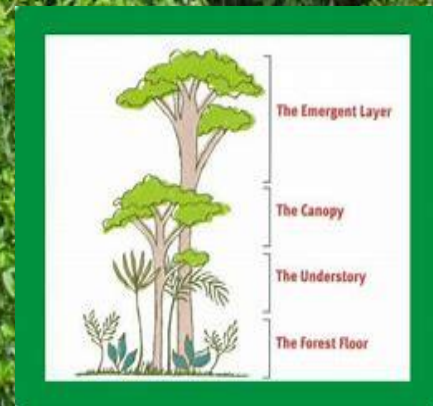
Sequence of learning:

- Where in the world are the Rainforests?
- What are the 4 layers of a Rainforest?
- What plants and animals are found there?
- What is life in a Rainforest like compared to mine?
- Why are Rainforests important?
- What is deforestation?



KEY SKILLS

- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied - identify the position and significance of the Equator
- Identify the position and significance of the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night)
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of the human and physical geography of a region of the UK and a region within South America



Interesting facts:

Rainforests cover approximately 6% of the Earth's surface and contain more than ½ of the world's plants. About 90% of organisms are found in the canopy. About 30 million species of plants and animals live in tropical rainforests. There are two types of rainforests – Tropical and Temperate. Tropical rainforests are generally warmer than temperate ones. Many things we have in our homes come from rainforests including: chocolate, sugar, rubber, bamboo and many medicines.

Final outcome:

Children will create a video to raise awareness of deforestation and the effects this has on the animals, people and environment.