

Year 3: Why are Rainforests important to us?

LOCATION: AMAZON



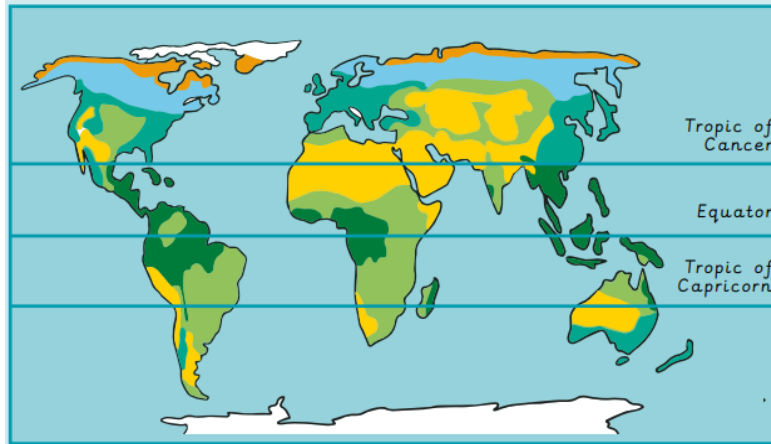
The Amazon rainforest covers much of the northern part of South America. A majority of the rainforest is in the country of Brazil.

GLOBAL WARMING:



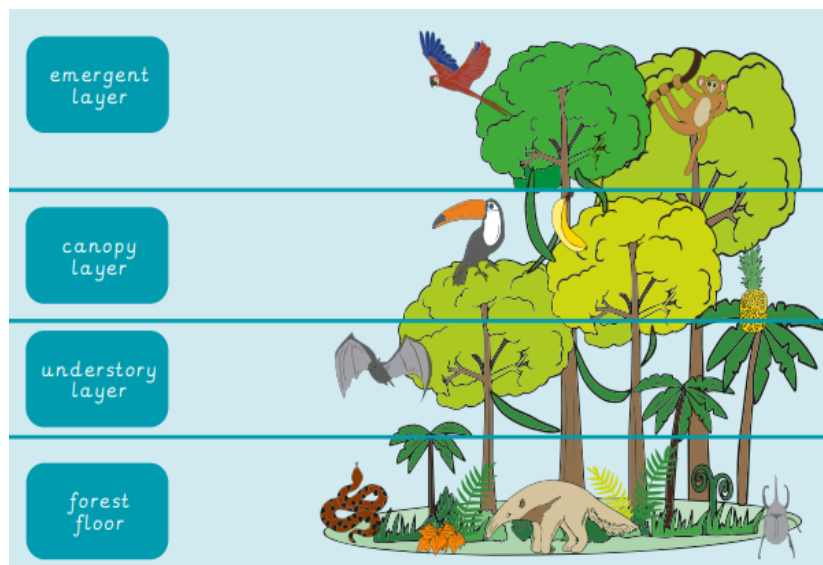
Mining, Logging and deforestation all contribute to global warming. Without plants in the rainforest to collect harmful gases, the planet heats up.

BIOMES:



All the rainforests in the world grow either side of the Equator. They are the dark green biomes on this map.

LAYERS OF THE RAINFOREST:



The rainforest is made up of four different layers. Different animals live in different layers.

KEY VOCABULARY



BIOME A biome is an area of the planet that shares similar climate, landscape, plants and animals.



INDIGENOUS: People living in an area whose ancestors were the first groups of people to live there.



EMERGENT LAYER: The top layer of the rainforest with the tallest trees that get lots of sunlight, rain and wind.



CANOPY: The layer of overlapping branches and leaves below the top of the rainforest that gets some sunlight, rain and wind.

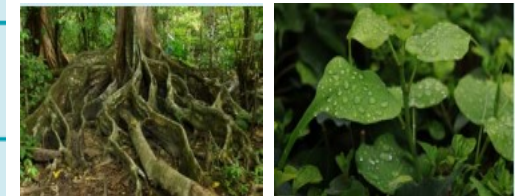


UNDERSTORY: The warm and damp layer above the forest floor that gets little light.



FOREST FLOOR: The ground layer of the rainforest where it is dark, wet and hot.

ADAPTATION:



Plants in the rainforest have adapted to their environment. Huge buttress roots support tall trees. Leaves have drip tips so water runs off them without damage.