



What should I already know?

- There are 7 continents: Antarctica, North America, South America, Asia, Australia, Africa and Europe.
- There are 5 oceans: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, Arctic

What will I know by the end of the unit?

What is a rainforest?

- A rainforest is a forest in a tropical area.
- It usually rains every day; it is hot and humid.
- The Amazon is the world's largest rainforest and it has parts in many countries in South America.

Where are the World's rainforests?

- Tropical rainforests are found on the equator.
- Rainforests can be found on every continent but Antarctica.



equator

How are rainforests being damaged?

- Deforestation. This means trees are cut down (and not replanted) to:
 - Create fields for farming and growing crops.
 - Produce wood for furniture and paper.
 - Create space for housing.



How can we help to protect rainforests?

- Use both sides of a piece of paper, and use pencils until they are stubs.
- Turn off light and electrical items when not in use.
- Reduce, reuse and recycle as many goods as possible.
- Avoid using products containing palm oil.

Vocabulary

Amazon rainforest	the largest rainforest in the world
average rainfall	the amount of rain a place normally receives in a year
climate	the average weather conditions over 30 years
deforestation	cutting down wide areas of trees without replanting them
equator	an imaginary circle running around the centre of the Earth
humid	a damp feeling due to water vapour in the air
species	a group of similar animals or plants
tropical	areas that are hot and wet all year
weather	the specific conditions outside on any given day

What are the layers of a rainforest?

- **Forest floor:** very few plants; almost no sunlight; animals include gorillas, leopard and tigers.
- **Understorey:** trees grow to 4m tall; very little sunlight; warm and humid; there are lots of insects.
- **Canopy:** trees form a roof over the plants below; lots of sunlight but also lots of rain; lots of food for animals; animals include snakes, toucans and tree frogs.
- **Emergent layer:** trees can be 60m tall; lots of sunlight; windy; animals include birds, bats, monkeys and butterflies.