

## Unit Title: What will happen if the Rainforests disappear?

Y3  
Summer 2

### End Point - The aim of this unit is for pupils to:

- Know the key features of a tropical rainforest biome
- Understand where the Amazon River and Amazon Rainforest are located and the impact this has on their climate.
- Understand the human and physical geography of the region, including the structure of the rainforest and human settlements.
- Understand the impact of deforestation on the environment.

### End of unit outcome:

Presentation 'What are the implications of deforestation and how can people help?'

### Links:

Text: 'The Great Kapok Tree' – Lynne Cherry

Geography – Children will have an understanding of Biomes and climates (Y3 A2 and Y3 S1)

### Prior Learning:

- Know the four countries of the UK and their capital cities
- Know, name and locate the continents and oceans of the world
- Know the 4 compass points
- Name and locate Middlesbrough on a map
- Know that humans create settlements, often near natural resources
- Know that different parts of the world have different climates and that this is because of their location in relation to the equator (Y3, A2)
- Know the term Biome (Y3, A2)
- Recognise similarities and difference between where they live and other countries






### Key Aspects of the Unit:



Map and atlas work/Fieldwork and investigation



Location

	<b>Physical Features:</b> Understand that physical features are natural features in an environment. Understand that physical features can include: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather and volcanoes.
	<b>Human Features:</b> Understand that human features are features in an environment that have been made by people. Understand that human features can include: city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop.
	<b>Human Processes:</b> Understand the processes that humans have developed across the globe including travel trade and economics.
	<b>Physical Processes:</b> Impact of nature on the earth e.g. erosion, plate tectonics, water cycle.
	<b>Diversity:</b> To develop a greater understanding of the diversity within our world including culture, biodiversity and economic diversity.

## Key Knowledge:

- Revisit what a biome is
- Know the 3 biomes studied this year: Arctic (Tundra), Tropical Rainforest, Desert
- For children to be able to answer the following questions on the Tropical Rainforest Biome:

- What is the biome like?
  - Where is this biome found?
  - What is its climate?
  - Which animals live there?
  - Which plants live there?

*Tropical rainforests are found near the equator. Around half of the world's rainforests are found in South America but others are found in Asia, Africa and the Pacific Islands. Tropical rainforests are hot, wet places which can get as much as ten metres of rain each year. The seasons don't change, meaning it is the same temperature the whole year round. Rainforests are divided into clear sections: the emergent layer where the tallest trees grow, the canopy layer, where leaves spread out to form a covering over the lower layers; the understory layer, where shorter plants that don't require as much sunlight to grow live and the forest floor, which is home to fungi and small shrubs. Most tropical animals live in the canopy layer, as there is so much food. Chimpanzees, tree frogs, monkeys, parrots, jaguars, gorillas, snakes, leopards and lizards all live in the rainforests. The rainforest is home to 80 000 species of plants. The rainforest has the largest range of diversity, with millions of different species of animals and plants. The main threat to the rainforest is deforestation, which is carried out by humans. The current rate is 6 million hectares of rainforest lost per year, which is equivalent to 8.5 million football pitches.*

- Revisit the names and locations of the world's continents

- Know the location of the equator, Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn
- Know the north and southern hemispheres
- Know the names of the countries within the Amazon region of South America
- Know the location of the Amazon River
- Know the location the Amazon rainforest
- Understand the structure (layers) of the rainforest
- Know that tropical rainforests exist in other places in the world
- Understand some of the different settlements within the Amazon region; ie that there are a few cities and towns but some people live in small, undeveloped settlements within the rainforest and are reliant on its natural resources
- Understand the term deforestation and its effects on climate change
- Know that a vegetation belt is an area with distinct plant types
- Know that a forest is a type of vegetation belt
- Compare a tropical rainforest with a temperate forest

### **Geographical Skills:**

#### **Mapping:**

- Locate a broader range of places on large scale maps
- Begin to use atlases to find out about other features of places (e.g the hottest part of the world)
- Use letter/no. co-ordinates to locate features on a map.
- Draw objects to scale (e.g using squared paper 1:1 then 1:2 etc)
- Locate places on larger scale maps e.g map of Europe
- Large scale OS maps
- Internet map sites
- Experience maps of varying scales
- Use junior atlases

#### **Fieldwork:**

- Begin to evaluate own observations and compare them with others

### **Vocabulary**

oceans	A huge body of salty water
continent	A very large area of land that consists of many countries, such as Europe
country	An area of land that is controlled by its own government
biodiversity	A range of different species of plants and animals.
rainforest	A hot, wet forest habitat generally located between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

deforestation	The process of forest being cleared
biome	A natural area of vegetation and animals
climate	The general weather conditions that are typical
weather	The condition of the atmosphere in one area at a particular time, for example, if it is hot, raining or cold.
equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole
map	A drawing of a particular area such as a city, country or a continent.
biome	A natural area of vegetation and animals
environment	Everything around us - the natural world of land, sea, air, plants and animals
settlement	A settlement is where people have come to live and have built their homes
sustainability	The very important process of protecting our planet for animals, plants and future generations