



Rainforests

Magnificent Rainforests!

Described by many as the Jewels of the Earth, Rainforests are found in warm, wet places that are located on or near the Equator. They cover about 6 percent of the Earth's surface and more than half of the world's plant and animal species live in them. In addition, many natural medicines are found there. Rainforests are critically important- they absorb 4.8 billion tonnes of CO₂ every year; that is approximately 1/5 of all greenhouse gases produced in one year.

In this unit the children will:

- recognise what a rainforest is and locate 4 of them on a map
- identify and describe similarities, differences, and patterns when investigating rainforest features.
- Recognise five physical features of the rainforest.
- consider what it would be like to live in the rainforest compared to living in Bridlington
- recognise the different layers of the rainforest



Geography skills:

- Locational knowledge.
- Place knowledge.
- Human and physical Geography.
- Map work.

Rainforests to investigate:

Amazon
Congo
St Lucia

Ganung Leuser,
Indonesia

Did you know?

The Sumatran orangutan is very rare – there are only 7,000 existing in the wild. It is an endangered species and is only found on the Indonesian island of Sumatra.





Key Vocabulary:

rainforest – an area of tall, mostly evergreen trees and a high level of rainfall

ecosystem – all the living things in a given area

equator- an imaginary line located at 0 degrees latitude around the planet

canopy- the branches and leaves that reach out at the top of the layer of trees

emergent layer – the highest layer, where the tallest trees reach the sunshine

forest floor – one of the richest components of the forest

understory – underlying layer of vegetation in a forest

deforestation – purposeful clearance of forested land

endangered - a species seriously at risk of extinction

precipitation – rain, snow, sleet and hail falling from the sky

biodiversity – variety of life on Earth, in all its forms

extinct- having no living members, no longer in existence

monsoon – caused by temperature differences in the air over land and sea.

oxygen – a colourless, odourless gas which is essential for life

humid- a high level of water vapour in the atmosphere

camouflage- a tactic to avoid capture and blend into an environment

habitat- the natural environment of an organism

carbon dioxide- an important greenhouse gas which comes from extraction and burning of fossil fuels





Burlington Junior School – Geography

Year 4

