

# Year 5 Knowledge Organiser

## Why should the rainforest be important to us all?



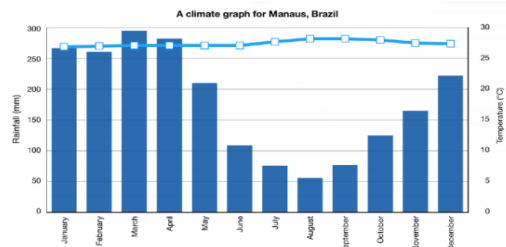
### Location

10° north and south of the Equator. The largest rainforests are in Brazil (South America), Zaire (Africa) and Indonesia (South East Asia). Other tropical rainforest places are in Hawaii and the islands of the Pacific & Caribbean.



### Climate

The average temperatures are around 27 degrees Celsius. Rainfall is over 2000mm throughout the year.



### Glossary

**The Equator** - the imaginary east-west line encircling the earth midway between the North and South poles. Divides the Earth into the Northern and Southern hemispheres

**Tropic of Cancer** - line of latitude that is north of the equator

**Tropic of Capricorn** - line of latitude that is south of the equator

**coastal** - an area of land where the sea and land meet

**inland** - toward the area away from the coast

**emrgant** - very tall rainforest trees that rise above all other trees

**canopy** - the tallest layer of trees in a forest

**undercanopy** - the layer of vegetation in a forest below the canopy but above the ground

**shrub layer** - the undergrowth of a forest from about 3 to 15 ft high

**decomposes** - an organism that breaks down dead organisms and returns important materials to the environment

**deforestation** - the destruction of trees over large areas

**afforestation** - establishing a forest where there has previously been no tree cover

**slash and burn** - a method of farming which involves clearing land by destroying and burning all the trees and plants on it, farming there for a short time and then moving on

**shifting cultivation** - where areas of land are cultivated for a short time and then left to regenerate their natural vegetation

**conservation** - the protection of things found in nature

**preservation** - looking after natural resources so they will still be around in the future

**sustainable** - meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the needs of future generations

## Year 5 Knowledge Organiser

### Why should the rainforest be important to us all?



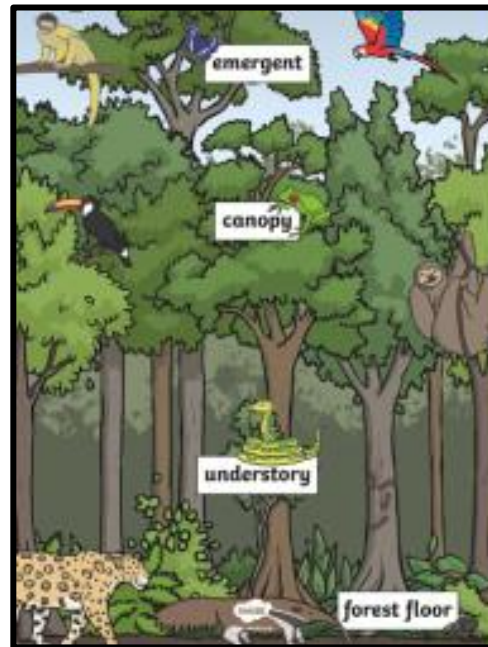
### Timeline of conservation

1986	Environmentalists gather for a workshop on the rainforest crisis
1988	First major conference about rainforest destruction
1989	SmartWood is founded to improve forest management by providing economic incentives to businesses that practice responsible forestry.
1992	SmartWood expands to Brazil, Chile, Honduras, Indonesia, Mozambique and Papua New Guinea
1994	SmartWood expands to include work with temperate and boreal forests in the US and Canada.
2000	About 15 percent of all bananas in the international market are grown on Rainforest Alliance Certified farms.
2005	By 2005, a total of 377,852 acres (153,000 hectares) of tropical farmlands are certified, sustainably producing bananas, coffee, cocoa, citrus and ferns.
2008	Rainforest Alliance shows that standards have seen fewer wildfires and less deforestation.
2009	Mars Incorporated, commits to getting its entire cocoa supply certified as sustainably produced by 2020.
2010	All of the coffee served on American Airlines flights is now from Rainforest Alliance certified farms.

### People of the rainforest

#### The Yanomami Tribe

There are lots of different indigenous tribes living in rainforests around the world; one of the largest is the Yanomami. The Yanomami live in South America in the rainforests and mountains of North Brazil and southern Venezuela. With a population of around 20,000 people the Yanomami live in large communal houses called shabonos. These shelters can accommodate between 50 and 400 people and are oval in shape with a central open area. They are rebuilt every year or so as they are fragile and easily damaged by storms.



### What the rainforest provides

At least 80% of the developed world's food originated in the tropical rainforest. Its bountiful gifts to the world include fruits like avocados, coconuts, figs, oranges, lemons, grapefruit, bananas, guavas, pineapples, mangos and tomatoes; vegetables including corn, potatoes, rice, winter squash and yams; spices like black pepper, cayenne, chocolate, cinnamon, cloves, ginger, sugar cane, turmeric, coffee and vanilla and nuts including Brazil nuts and cashews.

At least 3000 fruits are found in the rainforests; of these, only 200 are now in use in the Western World. The Indians of the rainforest use over 2,000.

The Amazon Rainforest produces more than 20% of the world's oxygen.

The Amazon Basin contains 20% of the world's fresh water.