

YEAR 4 RAINFOREST KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

KEY VOCABULARY AND SPELLINGS

Rainforest – a dense forest, normally found in tropical areas with high rainfall

Ecosystem – a community of plants and animals which depend on each other to survive

Deforestation – the action of clearing a wide area of trees

Habitat – a natural home or environment of an animal or plant

Equator – an imaginary line dividing the Earth into northern and southern hemispheres

Amazon rainforest – the largest tropical rainforest in the world, located in the continent South America

Endangered – a species which is seriously at risk of extinction

Biome – a large naturally occurring community of plants and animals occupying a major habitat

RAINFOREST LOCATIONS – rainforests are forest that get a lot of rain. Tropical rainforests are location in the tropics near the equator so they are very humid and warm.



RAINFOREST FACTS

- Around 80% of the food we eat originally came from rainforests e.g. coffee, chocolate, rice, bananas.
- 6% of the Earth's surface is covered in tropical rainforests, which doesn't seem a lot but they are home to more than half the world's total plant and animal species.
- Over a ¼ of the medicines we use today had their origins in the rainforests.
- A number of tribes in areas such as central Africa and Brazil still live in rainforests, having no contact with the outside world.

AMAZON RAINFOREST

Located in South America, it is mostly contained in Brazil, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia. It is the Largest rainforest in the world.



DEFORESTATION

CAUSES: **1)** clear space for farming (crops, cattle) **2)** shopping down trees for wood, **3)** build roads, **4)** dig for oil, **5)** flood areas to generate electricity.

IMPACT: **1)** an area the size of 20 football pitches is destroyed every 60 seconds, **2)** ½ of the tropical rainforests we had are gone, **3)** animal and plant species are becoming extinct, **4)** homes are being destroyed, **5)** levels of carbon dioxide are increasing and oxygen is decreasing.

LAYERS OF THE RAINFOREST

