



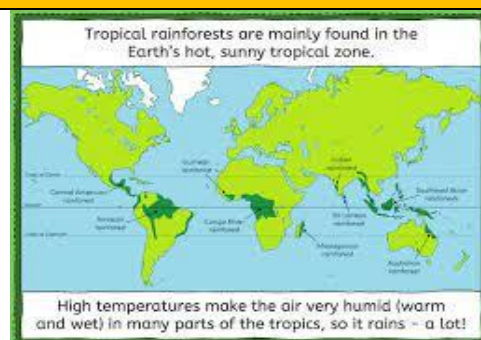
Can small actions eventually change the world?



Sticky Knowledge

- Biomes are areas of the planet with a similar climate and landscape, where similar animals and plants live. Some of the world's main biomes include rainforest, desert, savannah, grassland, woodland and tundra.
- A rainforest is a tall, dense forest that receives lots of rain every year. They are full of biodiversity.
- There are two types of rainforest: temperate and tropical
- Rainforests grown on every continent except for Antarctica.
- There are four layers to the rainforest: emergent, canopy, understory and forest floor.
- The largest rainforest is in the Amazon (located in South America).
- More than half of the Amazon Rainforest is in Brazil, but parts of it are in several other countries including Ecuador and Bolivia.
- The capital city of Brazil is Brasilia.
- Rainforests cover only a small part of the earth's surface - about 6%, yet they are home to over half the species of plants and animals in the world.
- Most of the rainforests lie between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.

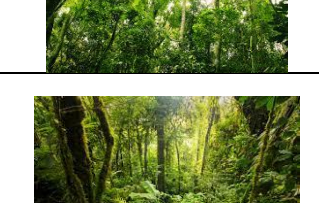
Rainforests



Rainforests are ecosystems filled with mostly evergreen trees that typically receive high amounts of rainfall. Tropical rainforests are found near the equator, with high average temperatures and humidity, while temperate rainforests lie mostly in coastal, mountainous areas.

Biomes, Vegetation Belts and Rainforests

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Biomes		Biomes are areas of the planet with similar climates, landscapes, animals and plants. What lives in each biome depends on: how warm or cold it is, how dry or wet it is, or how fertile the soil is.
Vegetation belt		A vegetation belt is an area with certain plant types, determined by climate, soil, drainage and elevation.
Temperate Rainforest		Temperate rainforests are wet, but not as rainy as tropical rainforests. Temperate rainforests are a lot cooler than tropical rainforests, but the temperatures are still mild. They often have two distinct seasons: one long wet winter, and a short drier summer.
Tropical Rainforest		Tropical rainforests are found near the equator, between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. They are very hot, humid and wet. There are no seasons in tropical rainforests; the weather is consistent all year round.
Biodiversity		Biodiversity is all the different kinds of life you'll find in one area—the variety of animals, plants, fungi, and even microorganisms like bacteria that make up our natural world.
Canopy Layer		The canopy blocks out the sun from lower layers and intercepts (catches) rainfall. It contains the most plant species.
Understory Layer		The understory is a dark, damp place because the canopy blocks most of the sunlight. Because there isn't much light, only small shrubs and trees can grow there. The understory is home to lots of insects and reptiles.
Forest Floor		The forest floor is the lowest layer where it is dark, hot, and damp. Only two per cent of sunlight gets through the thick canopy trees and understory plants to reach the forest floor.
Emergent Layer		The upmost layer of the rainforest is known as the emergent layer. Within this layer, you would see the very tallest trees standing tall above the canopy, above the other trees.