

Radiant Rainforests







STICKY KNOWLEDGE

Rainforests are found in places with a warm, wet climate	Climate is the average weather conditions over a long period of time	A rainforest has four different layers called: canopy, understory, emergent and forest floor
The rainforest provides many important things such as: medicines, animals and foods	There are efforts being made to preserve the rainforests from deforestation	

KEY VOCABULARY

Climate	The average weather conditions over a long period of time.
Deforestation	The cutting down and clearing of forests.
Equator	An imaginary circle running round the centre of the earth.
Humid	Feeling very damp due to water vapour in the air
Weather	The specific condition on a given day.
Species	A group of similar animals or plants

Emergent Layer	Canopy Layer	Understorey Layer	Forest Floor
			
Trees can be up to 60m tall	Trees form a roof over the plants below	Trees grow to less than 4m tall	Very few plants
Lots of sunlight	Lots of sunlight but also plenty of rain	Very little sunlight	Almost no sunlight
Cold and windy	Lots of food for animals	Warm and humid	Leaves and debris decompose quickly
Birds, bats, monkeys and butterflies	Snakes, toucans and tree frogs	Lots of insects	Gorillas, anteaters, leopards and tigers



The Amazon Rainforest

- 5.5 million square km (previously covered a much larger area)
- Parts in Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana
- 2.5 million insect **species**
- 40 000+ plant **species**
- 3 000 edible fruits
- 2 000+ **species** of birds and mammals



- 2 million tourists per year
- 170 different languages spoken
- 250 000 **native tribes** currently live there



Where in the World?

Rainforests are found near to the **equator** between the tropic of Cancer and the tropic of Capricorn.

They can be found in every continent except Antarctica.

They are located in countries such as Brazil, India, Peru, Mexico, Australia and Malaysia.

Deforestation

Trees are cut down:

- to create fields for farming cattle and growing crops,
- to produce timber and wood pulp to make furniture and paper,
- to create space for housing.

Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jobs are created in logging and transporting timber and manufacturing products. • Selling land raises money for local people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People's homes are destroyed. • Animals and plants may become extinct through habitat loss. • Plants that may have been useful could be lost.