

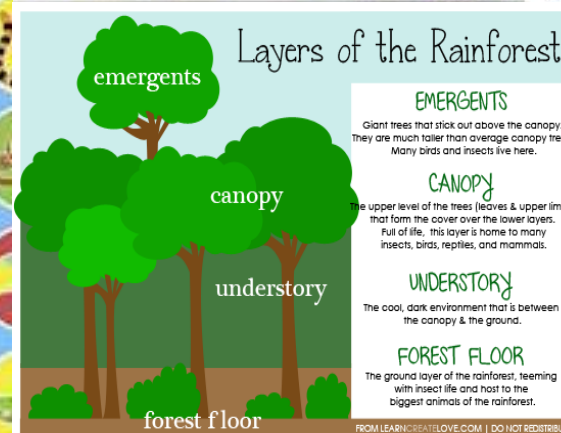
# Rainforests, Knowledge Organiser

<u>Scientific and geographical vocabulary</u>		
	Term	Definition
1	Rainforest	A dense forest, normally found in tropical areas with high rainfall. They generate much of the world's oxygen.
2	Country	A nation with its own government e.g. UK, USA, Germany, Denmark, Brazil, China.
3	Continent	The world's main continuous pieces of land (Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America, South America, Antarctica).
4	Ecosystem	A community of plants and animals that depend on each other to survive.
5	Deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees.
6	Habitat	The natural home or environment of an animal, plant or organism.
7	Interdependent	When two or more people or things rely on each other.

<u>Location, Layers and features</u>		
1	Equator	Imaginary line through the middle of the Earth that receives the most sunlight.
2	Tropic of Cancer Tropic of Capricorn	Imaginary lines north and south of the equator. Most rainforests can be found between these two lines.
3	Emergent Layer	Giant trees that enjoy the most sun but high winds & cold.
4	Canopy	Dense layer of trees overlapping each other. Home to most animals in rainforests.
5	Understory	Relatively dark, open area below the canopy.
6	Undergrowth	Also known as the forest floor, mainly consisting of fallen leaves, fruit etc. that decomposes as food for trees.
7	Flora & Fauna	Flora = Plants; Fauna = Animals.
8	Nocturnal	Animal that comes out at night. Sleeps during the day.
9	Camouflage	Blending in to hide in the natural environment.
10	Mimicry	Copying the look, sound or behaviour of something.

<u>Causes of Deforestation</u>	
1	To clear space for farming: growing crops (e.g. soya beans & palm oil) and space cattle to generate cheap beef.
2	Chopping down trees for wood.
3	To build roads to mine for metals, gold & diamonds.
4	To dig for oil.
5	To flood areas to make dams & generate electricity.

<u>Impact of Deforestation</u>	
1	An area the size of 20 football pitches is destroyed every 60 seconds.
2	1/2 of the tropical rainforests we had are gone.
3	28,000 species of animals are expected to become extinct in the next 25 years.
4	Local people's homes are destroyed.
5	Levels of carbon dioxide in the air are increasing and oxygen is decreasing.



<u>Interesting facts</u>
Rainforests cover approximately 6% of the Earth's surface by contain more than 1/2 of the world's plants. About 90% of organisms are found in the canopy.
About 30 million species of plants and animals live in tropical rainforests.
There are two types of rainforests – <b>Tropical</b> and <b>Temperate</b> . Tropical rainforests are generally warmer than temperate ones.
Many things we have in our homes come from rainforests including: chocolate, sugar, rubber, bamboo and many medicines.

# Tropical Rainforest

## What Is the Climate Like?

consistently warm, equatorial, hot, humid, moist, stagnant, temperate, tropical, water-abundant, wet, year-round high temperatures

## What Is the Rainforest like at Night?

awake, busy, dangerous, deadly, lively, nocturnal, noisy, pitch-black, predator-filled

## What Sounds Can Be Heard?

buzzing, chattering, clicking, dripping, flapping, growling, howling, loud, rustling, scuttling, shrieking, splashing, squawking, stridulating, trickling, vocalising

## How Could You Describe a Rainforest?

abundant, biodiverse, chaotic, dense, essential, impassable, impenetrable, inaccessible, luxuriant, mysterious, primitive, pristine, remote, temperate, tough, undisturbed, unexplored, vast

## Descriptive Words

### What Is It like in a Rainforest Canopy?

breezy, bright, elevated, leafy, maze-like, noisy, nutrient-rich, plentiful, refreshing, strong, sunlit, tangled, vibrant, warm

### What Does a Rainforest Smell Like?

decaying, earthy, fetid, floral, fruity, leafy, moist, pungent, swampy, tropical, vegetation

### What Is the Emergent Layer Like?

bright, broad-leaved, hardwood, looming, noisy, rainy, sunlit, top-heavy, towering, unsteady, windy

### What Is the Understorey Like?

damp, dangerous, food-rich, hot, humid, leafy, lively, low-light, moist, patchy, shaded, sheltered, speckled, sun-dappled, teeming, warm, wet

### How Could You Describe the Forest Floor?

dank, dark, decaying, decomposing, earthy, hot, infested, putrid, rotting, shaded, shadowy, unlit

