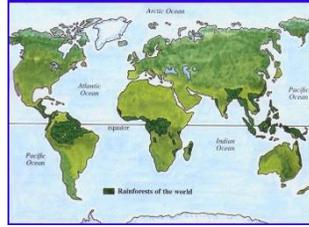




Knowledge Organiser - Lost! - Class 4

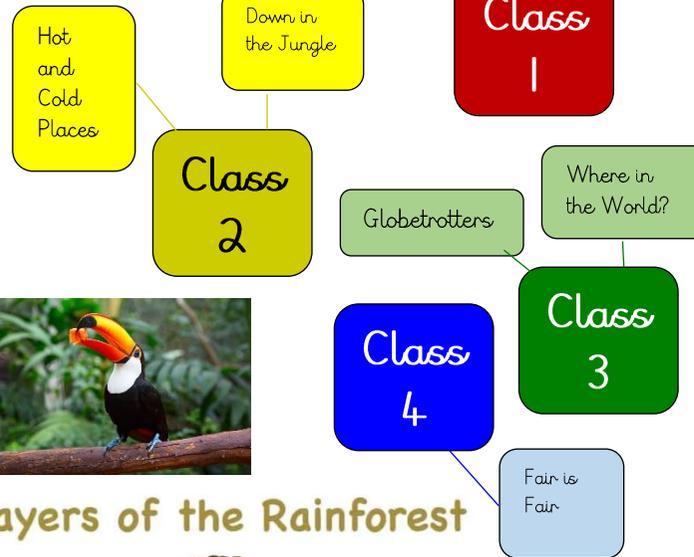


BIG Idea

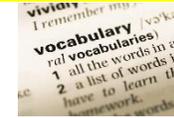
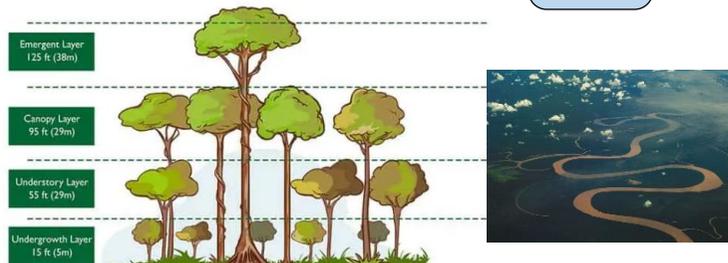
Rainforests are one of the many eco-systems on Earth and contain many species of plants, animals and other wonders of the World. Once covering around 14% of the land on Earth, there has been a dramatic reduction in this amount, being reduced by as much as 50% in the last 75 years. But what are the effects of this?

Sticky Knowledge

- ✓ A biome describes what a place is like and has its own specific climate e.g. aquatic, grassland, forest, desert, and tundra.
- ✓ A vegetation belt refers to the plant and plant life within a biome.
- ✓ A climate refers to the average weather conditions (physical geography) within a place over a long period of time.
- ✓ The relief of a place refers to the height and shape of the land (physical geography).
- ✓ There are 4 layers within a rainforest: emergent layer (around 125 feet/38m), canopy layer (around 95 feet/ 29m), understory layer (around 55 feet/ 29m) and undergrowth/shrub layer (around 15 feet/ 5m).
- ✓ There are many different climates around the world: desert, forest/rainforest, grassland, Mediterranean, mountainous, polar and tundra.
- ✓ Most rainforests are located on and around the Equator.
- ✓ The rainforests are home to many known and unknown species of animals, plants and fungi.
- ✓ A rainforests climate is generally hot, humid and extremely wet throughout the year, averaging between 175cm-200cm of rain a year.
- ✓ The relief of the rainforest can range from gently, flat slopes to steep sided mountains.
- ✓ There are many known and unknown tribes that live in rainforests, each with their own beliefs, religion and practices that can be similar and different to our own.
- ✓ Deforestation can have both positive and negative benefits.



Layers of the Rainforest



Vocabulary

- Climate**- the average weather in a place over a long period of time.
- Deforestation**- clearing a wide area of trees.
- Equator**- the imaginary line around the centre of the Earth.
- Humid**- hot and clammy conditions to live and work in.
- Native tribes**- a group/society of people living within an area of the forest.
- Species**- the type of plant/animal.
- Weather**- the state of the atmosphere within an area of Earth.
- Rainforest**- an area of land with dense forests and heavy rainfall.
- Tropics**- the parallel lines above and below the equator.
- Emergent layer**- tall trees that stand out above the canopy; only the strongest trees are emergent as they have competed for the sunlight.
- Canopy layer**- tall trees that usually bear fruit all year with large leaves and thick branches that create a roof to the rainforest, preventing sunlight reaching the smaller plants.
- Understory layer**- a tangle of shrubs, young trees, saplings, palms and vines. It is hot and damp here and the air is very still.
- Forest floor**- almost no plants grow here because it is dark due to the taller trees blocking out the sun so organisms decay quickly.
- Climate change**- a change/shift in the regular weather pattern in a particular area.
- Desert**- hot and dry all year round. The only things that grow are cacti and small shrubs because the soil is shallow and rocky. Animals come out at dusk when it is cooler.
- Mountainous**- very cold and windy. The higher the mountain, the colder and windier the environment. There is less oxygen at high elevations. The animals of this biome have adapted to the cold, the lack of oxygen, and the landscape.
- Oceans**- the largest biome on Earth. It is home to many different sea creatures, from tiny plankton to huge whales.
- Savannah**- hot all year round with a long, dry season. Only grasses and shrubs grow here but it is home to lots of different types of animals such as elephants, zebras and wildebeest.
- Tundra**- The coldest of all biomes with very little rain or snow. Winters are long and summers are short. Part of the soil is frozen all year round, although the top part defrosts in summer and plants such as mosses can grow.
- Biome**- biomes are large areas, or ecosystems, of the earth that have similar weather, climates, landscapes, animals and plants.
- Plantation**- a large area of land where crops are grown.