

## YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER GEOGRAPHY: THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

### Our Geographical Key Question: What if the rainforest disappears?

#### What should I already know?

- The countries of the UK are England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland
- The UK is located in Europe
- The seven continents of the world are: Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Oceania & Antarctica
- The five oceans of the world are: The Pacific, The Atlantic, The Indian, The Arctic & The Southern
- Some of the most famous rivers in the world are: The Thames, The Nile & The Amazon.
- The capital cities of the UK are London, Cardiff, Edinburgh and Belfast.

#### What will I know?

- How to identify North & South America on a map (see diagram on next page for location).
- The Equator is an imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole.
- The Northern and Southern Hemispheres are the two sides of the Earth either side of the Equator (see diagram on next page for location).
- How to identify the Tropics of Cancer & Capricorn (see diagram on next page for location).
- Brazil is the largest country in South America. It has a population of approx. 211 million.
- The Amazon River and the Amazon Rainforest are both located in Brazil. They also extend into other countries in South America too.
- The three largest biomes in Brazil are the Atlantic Ocean, the Amazon Rainforests and Cerrado savanna.
- Brazil is known for having a tropical climate. The average temperature is 21 degrees Celsius but it can be as high as 40 degrees Celsius. Brazil also has lots of rainfall too.
- Brazil is the largest producer of coffee in the world.
- Tropical rainforests are found around the Equator. The climate is normally hot and humid with lots of rainfall.
- The size of the Amazon rainforest is 5.5 million km<sup>2</sup>
- The different layers of the rainforest are: *emergent, canopy, understory, and forest floor*. Each layer has unique characteristics based on differing levels of water, sunlight and air circulation.
- Investigate the natural resources, such as palm oil that can be found in the rainforest and the role they play in trade routes.
- The Amazon is home to many different creatures, including: jaguars, harpy eagles, pink river dolphins, sloths, black spider monkeys and poison dart frogs.
- Deforestation happens when forests are cut down to make way for the land to be used in other ways. Deforestation leads to the loss of wildlife and their habitats. It also contributes to climate change and global warming.
- Explain sustainability and the role rainforests play.

#### Vocabulary

**Biome:** a natural area of vegetation and animals

**Climate:** the general weather conditions that are typical of it

**Deforestation:** if an area is deforested, all the trees there are cut down

**Equator:** an imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole

**Vegetation:** plants, trees and flowers

**Global:** something that happens in all parts of the world or affects all parts of the world

**Natural Resources:** the land, forests, energy sources and minerals existing naturally in a place that can be used by people

**Pollution:** the process of polluting water, air, or land, especially with poisonous chemicals

**Tropics:** parts of the world that lie between two lines of latitude, the Tropic of Cancer, 23½° north of the equator, and the Tropic of Capricorn, 23½° south of the equator. The tropics have a humid climate, where the weather is hot and damp.

**Climate Change:** changes in the earth's climate, especially the gradual rise in temperature, as a result of human activity

Causes of Deforestation		Impact of Deforestation	
1	To clear space for farming: growing crops (e.g. soya beans & palm oil) and space cattle to generate cheap beef.	1	An area the size of 20 football pitches is destroyed every 60 seconds.
2	Chopping down trees for wood.	2	¼ of the tropical rainforests we had are gone.
3	To build roads to mine for metals, gold & diamonds.	3	28,000 species of animals are expected to become extinct in the next 25 years.
4	To dig for oil.	4	Local people's homes are destroyed.
5	To flood areas to make dams & generate electricity.	5	Levels of carbon dioxide in the air are increasing and oxygen is decreasing.





# YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER GEOGRAPHY: THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

Our Geographical Key Question: What if the rainforest disappears?

