## Years 5 and 6 – Rainforests

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Equator	An imaginary line that runs around the centre of the globe.	
Longitude	Is measured by imaginary lines that run around the world vertically (up and down). These lines are known as <b>meridians.</b>	
Latitude	Is measured by imaginary lines that run around the world horizontally. These lines are parallel to the equator and include the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.	
Climate	The long term weather pattern in an area.	
Humid	When there is a high level of water vapour in the atmosphere	
Deforestation	When trees are cut down and cleared	
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## **Geographical Skills and Enquiry**

Locate and name the seven continents on a world map. Use an atlas to locate rainforests around the world. Begin to use lines of longitude and lines of latitude to describe positions. Compare a rainforest climate to the climate in the UK – represent data in graphs.

Name and describe the different layers of a rainforest. Understand the importance of rainforests and the need to protect them. Understand what is meant by deforestation and give examples of industries that play a part in deforestation.



## Knowledge

A rainforest is a dense forest rich in wildlife, found typically in tropical areas where there is heavy rainfall.

Tropical rainforests are located in the Tropics – this is the area, close to the equator, between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.

Rainforests are made up of different layers: **The forest floor, the understory layer, the canopy layer and the emergent layer.** Different plants and animals live and grow in each layer.

The largest rainforest in the world is the Amazon Rainforest, which is located in South America. If it were a country, it would be the ninth largest in the world.

Deforestation takes place when trees are cut down to make room for different land use – example: logging, farming and motorways. Rainforests used to cover about 14% of the Earth's surface but due to deforestation it is now thought that they only cover around 6%.

Over half the world's species of plants and animals live in rainforests. They are very important for us all as trees produce oxygen, which we need to breathe in to survive.

## By the end of this unit. I should

know.....

- Where rainforests are located and what their climate is like.
- That rainforests have different layers and each layer is home to a huge variety of plants and animals.
- The importance of rainforests and what is meant by conservation.
- What is meant by deforestation and the consequences of deforestation.
- What palm oil is, what it is used for and the impact of a growing demand for the product.