

The Rainforest Biome : Geography : Year 3/4

	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 1	To find out what a rainforest is and where they are found.	Children will identify what a rainforest is and understand that rainforests lie between the two tropics. They will identify areas of rainforest on a world map and use maps to identify the continents and countries of various rainforests.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children locate the tropic of Cancer and equator on a world map? Do children know that rainforests lie between the two tropics? Can children name continents and countries that have areas of rainforest? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 1A/1B/1C/1D/1E World Map sheets Rainforests Map sheets Country Cards (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 2	To explore the layers of vegetation in a rainforest.	Children will start to understand that rainforests are very hot and humid. They will explore the layers of vegetation in a rainforest, identifying and describing each one. They will identify animals that live in each layer of vegetation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children describe what the rainforest is like? Can children name the four layers of vegetation in a rainforest? Can children describe the features of each layer of vegetation and identify animals that live there? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 2A/2B Information Sheet Challenge Cards (FSD? activity only) Art materials, e.g. brown/green paper, paints, tissue paper, paints, chalks, etc. (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 3	To investigate the climate of the rainforest.	Children will use graphs to investigate the climate (temperature and precipitation) in a rainforest location. They will start to understand why rainforests have so much rain and learn about the role of the water cycle in rainforests.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children understand the word 'climate'? Can children describe the climate of a tropical rainforest? Can children compare the climate of the rainforest with climates in other parts of the world? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 3A/3B/3C/3D/3E Challenge Cards (FSD? activity only) Coloured paper, art materials, etc. (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 4	To find out about the people and settlements of the rainforest.	Children will learn about groups of people who live in the rainforest, specifically the Yanomami tribe. They will identify how the Yanomami use the rainforest to live sustainably and compare tribal lifestyles to modern Western lifestyles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know that there are settlements in the rainforest? Can children describe the way of life of traditional tribespeople? Can children explain how people use the rainforest sustainably to survive? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 4A/4B/4C/4D/4E Access to internet, books, etc. Question Cards (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 5	To explore why the rainforest is under threat and the measures taken to protect it.	Children will learn what deforestation is and consider the effect this has on the environment. They will explore some of the causes of deforestation and how this affects the people and animals of the rainforest. They will think about ways in which rainforests can be protected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know that rainforests around the world are under threat? Can children describe reasons why rainforests are destroyed? Can children describe ways in which rainforests can be protected? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 5A/5B/5C/5D Books, access to internet, etc. Information Sheet (FSD? activity only) End of unit quiz

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KS2 Geography Curriculum Objectives

- locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities
- identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night)
- describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle
- describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water
- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied

Vocabulary

Equator, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, latitude, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, continent, country, South America, Brazil, Manaus, Amazon, temperature, climate, hot, humid, sunshine, wet season, dry season, water cycle, evaporation, condensation, transpiration, filtration, precipitation, water vapour, rain water, cloud, heat, cool, vegetation, emergent layer, canopy, understory, forest floor, animals, plants, trees, vines, flowers, mosses, fungi, species, monkeys, orangutang, iguanas, birds, snakes, reptiles, insects, sloths, frogs, gorillas, anteaters, tapirs, elephants, tigers, jaguars, soil, debris, decay, nutrients, deforestation, drought, erosion. Yanomami, Shabono, Amazon, indigenous, tribe, hunt, weave, roast, decorate, celebrate, feast, music, dance, shamans.

Teacher notes

