

KEY VOCABULARY AND SPELLINGS

<u>Rainforest</u> – a dense forest, normally found in tropical areas with high rainfall

<u>Ecosystem</u> – a community of plants and animals which depend on each other to survive

<u>Deforestation</u> – the action of clearing a wide area of trees

<u>Habitat</u> – a natural home or environment of an animal or plant

<u>Equator</u> – an imaginary line dividing the Earth into northern and southern hemispheres

<u>Amazon rainforest</u> – the largest tropical rainforest in the world, located in the continent South America

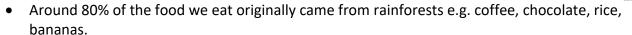
<u>Endangered</u> – a species which is seriously at risk of extinction

<u>Biome</u> – a large naturally occurring community of plants and animals occupying a major habitat

YEAR 4 RAINFOREST KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

<u>RAINFOREST LOCATIONS</u> – rainforests are forest that get a lot of rain. Tropical rainforests are location in the tropics near the equator so they are very humid and warm.

RAINFOREST FACTS



- 6% of the Earth's surface is covered in tropical rainforests, which doesn't seem a lot but they are home to more than half the world's total plant and animal species.
- Over a ¼ of the medicines we use today had their origins in the rainforests.
- A number of tribes in areas such as central Africa and Brazil still live in rainforests, having no contact with the outside world.

AMAZON RAINFOREST

Located in South America, it is mostly contained in Brazil, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia. It is the Largest rainforest in the world.



DEFORESTATION

CAUSES: 1) clear space for farming (crops, cattle) **2)** shopping down trees for wood, **3)** build roads, **4)** dig for oil, **5)** flood areas to generate electricity.

IMPACT: 1) an area the size of 20 football pitches is destroyed every 60 seconds, 2) ½ of the tropical rainforests we had are gone, 3) animal and plant species are becoming extinct, 4) homes are being destroyed, 5) levels of carbon dioxide are increasing and oxygen is decreasing.

LAYERS OF THE RAINFOREST

Birds, bats, and

butterflies live in

the tops of the tallest

trees. That is called

the emergent layer.

In the tops of the shorter trees, or

canopy, you can

Snakes, red-eyed tree frogs, and other animals live in the

understory, or

lower branches.

Animals such as

found on the dark

iaguars can be

forest floor.

find animals such as toucans and monkeys.

