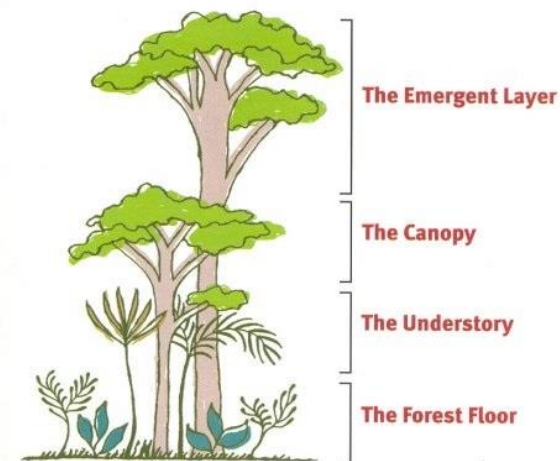


Key Vocabulary and definition

Rainforest: A rainforest is a tall, dense forest that receives lots of rain every year.

Rainforests are full of **biodiversity**, meaning there are lots of different species of plants and animals that live there.

tropical	Tropical rainforests are found near the equator within the tropics.
Equator	The Equator is an imaginary circle around Earth. It divides the Earth into two equal parts: the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere .
vegetation	All plants and trees in a specific region.
ecosystem	A community of plants and animals that depend on each other to survive.
deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees.
emergent layer	The emergent layer is the name given to the tops of trees that poke up above the rainforest canopy. It is very sunny here and only the strongest and tallest plants reach this level.
canopy	Dense layer of trees overlapping each other. Home to most animals in rainforests.
understory	The understory layer is a tangle of shrubs, young trees, saplings, palms and vines. It is hot, humid, shady and damp.
undergrowth	Also known as the forest floor, mainly consisting of fallen leaves, fruit etc. that decomposes as food for trees.



Why are we learning this?

- To know what a rainforest is and to know where they are in the world.
- To know how to identify the ecosystems in the rainforest.
- To know that rainforests generate most of the Earth's oxygen.
- To know that rainforests are close to the Equator.
- To know that rainforests are being destroyed.

Why is it important?

To acquire a sense of place, space and locational skills. of the tropics and the major areas of rainforests in the world e.g. The Amazon, S. America.

Learning links

Y2	Climate Zones
Y5	Biomes

