

Topics in this cycle: Ecosystems: Tropical Rainforests	Taught: Spring 1	Year Group: 7
Key knowledge/concepts to be learnt ('Tell me about....')		Websites/blogs/YouTube links and further reading to deepen and consolidate learning
What are the main features of an ecosystem? Ecosystems are a community of plants and animals living in an environment. The different parts of an ecosystem are interconnected.		Global biomes - KS3 Geography - BBC Bitesize Tropical rainforests guide for KS3 geography students - BBC Bitesize Deforestation Facts for Kids (theworldcounts.com) What Is Deforestation For Kids: Information And Facts (activewild.com) Deforestation Causes, Effects & Solutions Video for Kids - YouTube What If All Trees Were Cut Down? Earth Without Trees The Dr Binocs Show Peekaboo Kidz - YouTube Rainforests Geography - Ecosystems and Biomes - YouTube Virtual Field Trip - Amazon Rainforest - YouTube
What are the main features of a tropical rainforest? Rainforests are found on and around the equator. The climate has ideal growing conditions for plants – it is hot and wet. There are high levels of biodiversity in the rainforest.		
What are the opportunities for people in the rainforest? The rainforest is used for many different activities such as cattle ranching, logging and farming. Deforestation is happening across large parts of the Amazon rainforest.		
What are the challenges for people in the rainforest? Lots of activities in the rainforests damage the environment and can have both local and global impacts. Many activities have led to conflict.		
Why is the rainforest important? The rainforest is an important global climate regulator and a source of many medicinal drugs.		

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Key Vocabulary and Definitions To Be Learnt		What Will The Assessment Look Like?
Ecosystem	A community of plants and animals living together	Extended piece of writing based upon evaluating the impacts of deforestation in the Amazon rainforest.
Interdependence	When a group of things depend on each other	
Nutrients	Substances needed for growth	Key Knowledge quizzes on satchel:one homework platform
Producers	Produce their own food	Short answer questions in lessons.
Consumers	Animals that eat plants or other animals	
Decomposers	Organisms that break down dead material	Family Learning Opportunities
Food webs	Shows how interconnected organisms are in an ecosystem	Have a look in your fridge or cupboards and make a list of all of the items that contain palm oil which comes from palm trees planted in the rainforest after all the original trees are cleared.
Food chain	Shows how each living thing gets food	
Biome	An ecosystem on a global scale	Visit the Botanical Gardens in Edgbaston - Birmingham Botanical Gardens And Glasshouses, UK
Tropical Rainforest	A hot, humid and dense forest usually found around the equator.	
Biodiversity	Number and variety of plants and animals in an area	Make a diorama of a rainforest to show the different features of each layer, including the types of plants and animals you'd find there. Feel free to use any medium you like; 3D objects, pencils, pens, collage, modelling clay, paint, pastels... whatever you have available.
Emergent	The tallest trees in the rainforest	
Canopy	The layer of overlapping branches and leaves where most of the life in a rainforest can be found	
Buttress roots	The wide roots that help to keep the tall trees standing.	
Deforestation	The large scale removal of trees.	

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