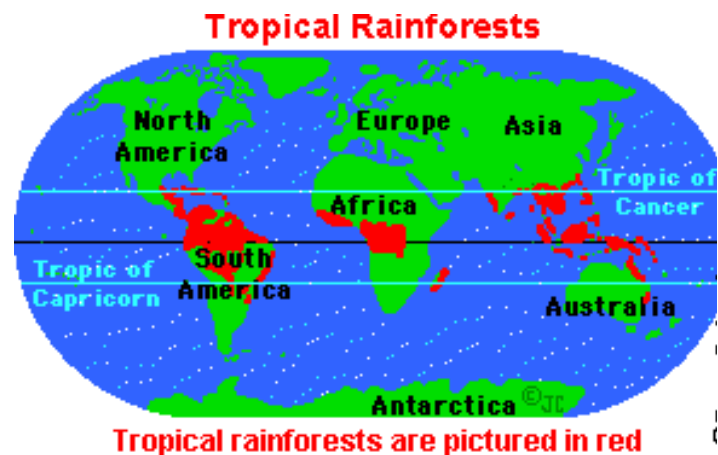


Year 2 - Remarkable Rainforests

Key vocabulary

Rainforest	A dense forest, normally found in tropical areas with high rainfall. They generate much of the world's oxygen.
Tropical	A place near the equator where the climate is hot and moist year round.
Tropic of Cancer & Tropic of Capricorn	Imaginary lines north and south of the equator . Most rainforests can be found between these two lines.
Equator	Imaginary line through the middle of the Earth that receives the most sunlight.
Emergent layer	Giant trees that enjoy the most sun but high winds and cold.
Canopy	Dense layer of trees overlapping each other. Home to most animals in rainforests .
Understory	Relatively dark, open areas below the canopy .
Forest Floor	Mainly consists of fallen leaves, fruit etc. Very little sunlight gets this far.
Deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees.
habitat	The natural home or environment of an animal, plant or organism.

Where in the world?





- 1) Tropical Rainforests grow close to the Equator where it's hot and rainy.
- 2) Tropical rainforests lie between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
- 3) Tropical rainforests cover less than 2% of the Earth's surface but contain over half of all species.
- 4) A single square metre of rainforest gets 2000 litres of rainfall every year—that's an average of 5.5 litres per day.
- 5) Rain falling on a rainforest can take as long as 10 minutes to reach the ground because it has to travel through all of the layers.
- 6) A Tropical Rainforest is broken in to four distinct layers:
 - i. The Emergent Layer
 - ii. The Canopy
 - iii. The Understorey
 - iv. The Forest Floor
- 7) The Amazon is the world's largest rainforest. Scientist think there are over 390 billion trees in the vast forest.
- 8) A single South American rainforest has 18,000 different types of plants.
- 9) People still live in the rainforests, though not as many as 200 years ago. Rainforest people depend on the forest for their food and shelter. They hunt, fish and have learnt to use thousands oif plants for cooking, medicine and building.
- 10) Rainforests are under threat due to deforestation—this means trees are being cut down to be used for other things.

