

Rainforests – Year 5 Knowledge Organiser

Subject Specific Vocabulary			Exciting Books
canopy	The canopy , which may be over 30 m above the ground, is made up of the overlapping branches and leaves of rainforest trees.		<h2 style="text-align: center;">Sticky Knowledge</h2> <p>Only around 6% of the Earth's land surface is rainforest – but about half of all animal and plant species live there.</p> <p>It can take ten minutes for a falling raindrop to travel from a rainforest's thick canopy to the floor.</p> <p>The Amazon rainforest in South America is so big that if it were a country, it would be the ninth biggest in the world.</p>
emergent layer	The emergent layer is the name given to the tops of trees that poke up above the rainforest canopy.		
understory	The understory layer is a tangle of shrubs, young trees, saplings, palms and vines. It is hot and damp here and the air is very still.		
deforestation	When forests are cut down and the area is permanently cleared for another use.	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Where are the famous rainforests?</h2> <p>Amazon, Brazil</p> <p>Australia, West Africa</p>	
endangered	An endangered species is a species which has been categorized as very likely to become extinct.		
indigenous	Indigenous people or things belong to the country in which they are found		
biomes	Biomes are distinct biological communities that have formed in response to a shared physical climate.	 	
temperate	Relating to or denoting a region or climate characterized by mild temperatures.		
extinction	The extinction of a species of animal or plant is the death of all its remaining living members.		
destruction	The act of destroying something.		
biodiversity	Variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat, a high level of which is usually considered to be important and desirable.		