

Y4 Geography: Rainforests – Why are rainforests important to us?

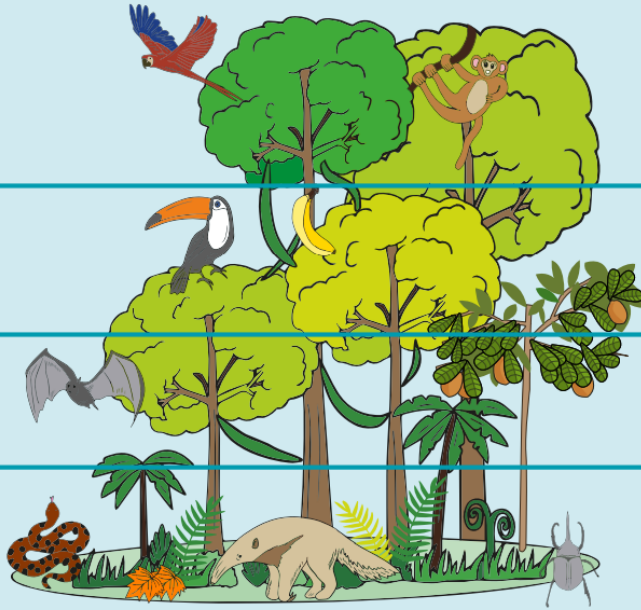
Layers of the rainforest

emergent layer

canopy layer

understorey layer

forest floor



emergent layer

The top layer of the rainforest with the tallest trees that get lots of sunlight, rain and wind.

canopy layer

The layer of overlapping branches and leaves below the top of the rainforest that gets sunlight, rain and wind.

understorey layer

The warm and damp layer above the forest floor that gets little light.

forest floor

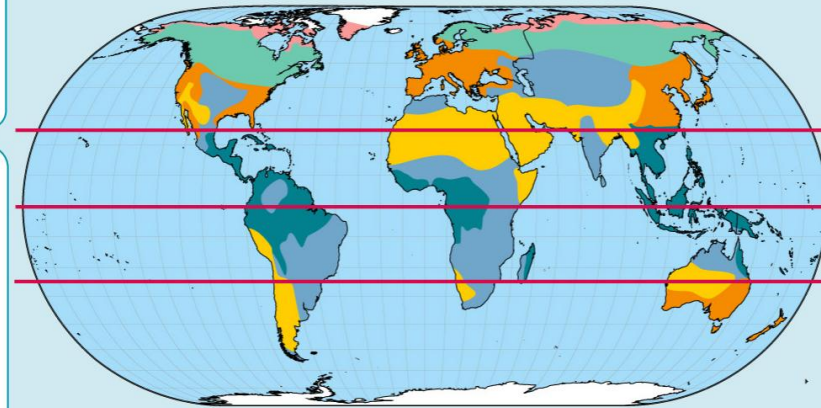
The ground layer of the rainforest where it is dark, wet and hot.

Map of the world's biomes

biome

An area of the world with a similar climate and landscape, where similar plants and animals live.

- Tundra
- Boreal forest
- Temperate deciduous forest
- Savannah
- Tropical rainforest
- Desert



Tropic of Cancer

A line of latitude north of the Equator which marks the northernmost edge of the Earth's hottest regions.

Equator

An invisible horizontal line that splits the world into two hemispheres.

Tropic of Capricorn

A line of latitude south of the Equator which marks the southernmost edge of the Earth's hottest regions.

How have plants adapted in the Amazon rainforest?



Thin, smooth bark ensures rain can run off trees easily.



Buttress roots keep tall trees stable in the wet soil and strong winds.



Drip tips mean rain can run off leaves without damaging them.



Lianas (vines) wind their way up other plants to reach sunlight.