

## Lower Key Stage 2 - Forest Academy

### Rainforests - Knowledge Organiser

| <i>Key Vocabulary:</i>  |  | <i>Where in the World?</i>   |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <b>climate</b>  | The average weather conditions over a long period of time. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rainforests are found near to the equator between the tropic of Cancer and the tropic of Capricorn.</li> <li>• They can be found in every continent except Antarctica.</li> <li>• They are located in countries such as Brazil, India, Peru, Mexico, Australia and Malaysia.</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>deforestation</b>  | The cutting down and clearing of forests                   |  |  |
| <b>equator</b>  | An imaginary circle running round the centre of the Earth. |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |
| <b>humid</b>  | Feeling very damp due to water vapour in the air.          |  |  |
| <b>native tribes</b>  | The original settlers of an area.                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The climate in the rainforest is the same all year round.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Average rainfall of 6cm each month.</li> <li>○ Usually rains every day.</li> <li>○ Hot and humid.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                 |  |
| <b>species</b>  | A group of similar animals or plants.                      |  |  |
| <b>weather</b>  | The specific condition on a given day.                     |  |  |
| <i>Deforestation</i>  |  |  |  |
| <p>Trees are cut down:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to create fields for farming cattle and growing crops,</li> <li>• to produce timber and wood pulp to make furniture and paper,</li> <li>• to create space for housing.</li> </ul> |  | <i>What can be done to protect the rainforest?</i>   |  |
| <b>Positive Impacts</b>   |  | <b>Negative Impacts</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jobs are created in logging and transporting timber and manufacturing products.</li> <li>• Selling land raises money for local people.</li> </ul>  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People's homes are destroyed.</li> <li>• Animals and plants may become extinct through habitat loss.</li> <li>• Plants that may have been useful could be lost.</li> </ul>  |  |
|   |  |  |  |

## Types of Forests

All forests have lots of trees, but there are different types of forests. They are often described as different biomes. One of the main differences is where they are located in relation to the equator and the poles.

There are three main types of forest biomes:

- the rainforest,
- the temperate forest,
- the Taiga.

Rainforests are located in the tropics, near the equator.

Taiga forests are located far north.

Temperate rainforests are located in between.

## Thetford Forest

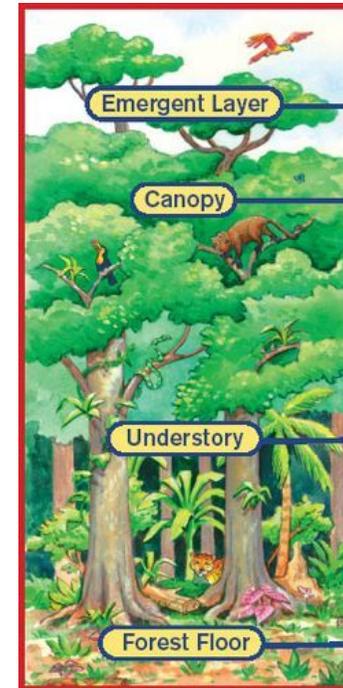
Thetford Forest is the largest man-made pine forest in the United Kingdom and covers an area about the size of a city.

Established in the 1920s by the Forestry Commission, it forms a large part of the history of the Brecks landscape and contains nearly 19,000 hectares of trees. It is an example of a temperate forest.

It is a habitat to a range of wildlife and has a large population of deer and muntjac, as well as a wide variety of birds.



## The layers of the rainforest



Birds, bats, and butterflies live in the tops of the tallest trees. That is called the **emergent layer**.

In the tops of the shorter trees, or **canopy**, you can find animals such as toucans and monkeys.

Snakes, red-eyed tree frogs, and other animals live in the **understory**, or lower branches.

Animals such as jaguars can be found on the dark **forest floor**.

## The Amazon Rainforest - Key Facts

- 5.5 million square km (previously covered a much larger area).
- Parts in Brazil, Peru, Columbia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.
- 2.5 million insect species.
- 40,000 + plant species
- 3,000 edible fruits.
- 2,000 + species of birds and mammals.
- 2 million tourists per year.
- 170 different languages spoken.
- 250,000 native tribes currently live there.

