



Ridgeway Farm CE Academy

Topic	Rainforests	Year Group:	6	Theme:	Children
Big Question:	How can we sustain our world to make a better future?				

What should I already know?

- The seven continents and five oceans.
- The climate of South America and how it differs to the UK.
- The climate of places is affected by their location (e.g. the equator, Tropics).
- The Tropic of Cancer effectively divides the country into temperate and tropical zones.
- The effects of climate change and pollution on the Earth.
- Fair trade is a way of buying and selling products that allows the farmers to be paid a fair price for their produce, and have better working conditions.

Key Knowledge

- Tropical rainforests are very hot, humid and wet. They get around 2500 mm of rain a year. The average temperature is 28°C. There are no seasons in tropical rainforests; the weather is consistent all year round.
- Rainforests are typically made up of 4 different layers: emergent, canopy, understory and forest floor. Depending on the layer of the rainforest, different vegetation and animal life can be found.
- Rainforests are of great importance because the vegetation takes in carbon dioxide and gives out breathable oxygen.
- It is estimated an area of rainforest about the size of a football pitch is destroyed each second.
- Trees take in carbon dioxide and reduce the effects of global warming.
- Palm oil is made from the fruits of trees called African oil palms. It is a type of vegetable oil, like sunflower or rapeseed oil.
- Palm oil production is said to have been responsible for about 8% of the world's deforestation between 1990 and 2008. This is because forests are burned to clear areas where people can grow oil palms - even if it's illegal.

Vocabulary

biome	A natural area of the living world which has its own climate, vegetation and animals.
climate	The general weather conditions that are typical of a place.
climate zone	Sections of the Earth that are divided according to the climate. There are three main climate zones: polar, temperate and tropical.
deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees.
equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North and South Pole.
export	Selling products or raw materials to another country.
import	To import products or raw materials means to buy them from another country for use in your own country.
global	Something that happens in all parts of the world or affects all parts of the world.
natural resources	The land, forests, energy sources and minerals existing naturally in a place that can be used by people.
Palm oil	A yellow oil which comes from the fruit of certain palm trees and is used in lots of products that we buy and use today.
pollution	Pollution happens when the environment is contaminated, or dirtied, by waste, chemicals, and other harmful substances.
sustainability	The idea that humans must interact with the environment in a way that ensures there will be enough resources left for future generations.
trade route	A route, often covering long distances, that is used by traders (people who buy, sell or ex-
vegetation	plants, trees and flowers

Where can rainforests be located?

