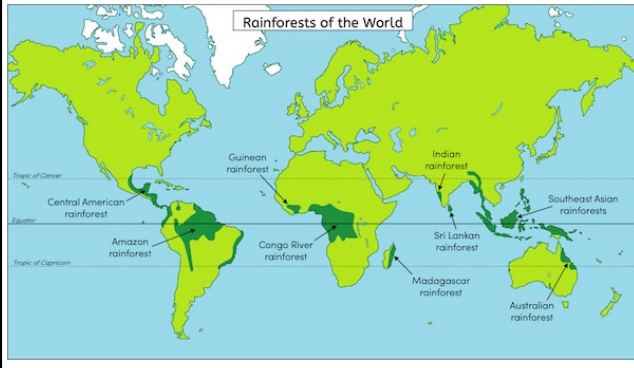


Phase 2 – Rainforests

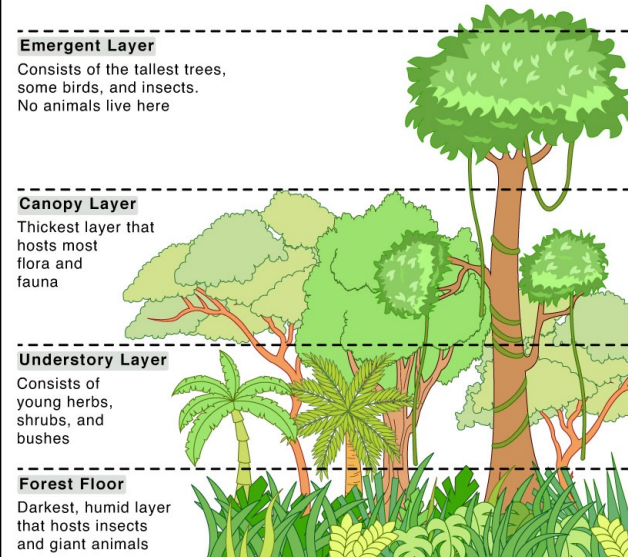
Where are they?



Layers of the Rainforest

Layers of the Rainforest

Science Facts



What are they like?

- Rainforests are very dense, warm and wet forests.
- They grow in areas of high rainfall.
- Rainforests receive 2,000 – 10,000 mm of rain each year!
- Rainforests soak up and store carbon dioxide. This helps to tackle climate change.
- Rainforests affect rainfall patterns and control how much water is held in the soil.
- They are a habitat for millions of plants and animals.
- About half of the world's known plant and animal species are found in rainforests. New species are being discovered all the time!
- Millions of indigenous people around the world live in and depend on the rainforest.
- Many of our food sources and medicines come from rainforest plants.



Threats to the Rainforest

Deforestation occurs when trees are cut down across a wide area. This land is then used for another purpose. Every minute, an area of rainforest the size of a football pitch is cut down. If this rate continues, there will be no rainforests in 100 years. Sometimes the land is used for farming or to keep cattle.

Huge areas of rainforest are also destroyed in order to grow oil palm trees. This means animals and other plants lose their natural habitats. Palm oil comes from the fruit of oil palm trees. Palm oil is edible and is found in lots of food. It is used in a huge range of products, such as toothpaste, deodorant, make-up, shampoo and lipstick. Palm oil can also be used as animal feed and as a biofuel for machines.



Key Vocabulary



BOREAL: The coniferous forests in the Northern Hemisphere.



CLIMATE: The general weather conditions that are typical of a place.



DEFORESTATION: The act of clearing an area of trees.



HABITAT: The natural environment where an animal or plant lives.



IMPACT: The affect something has on something else.



NATIVE: A person who was born in a country or region.



TRIBE: A group of people of the same race, language and customs.



TROPICAL: Weather that is hot and damp.