

YEAR 6 - Amazonia

Key Vocab:

biome	A large area on the earth's surface defined by the types of plants and animals living there
climate	The average weather conditions over a long period of time
deciduous	Forest characterised by trees with leaves that fall off or are shed seasonally, usually at the end of the growing season. Located above tropical rainforests and below coniferous forests
deforestation	Clearing of trees from an area
economic activity	Jobs or industry that earn someone or a company money
evergreen	A plant that keeps green leaves throughout the year
export	Sending goods or services to another country for sale
fair trade	A trade agreement where fair prices are paid to the producers
forest	A large wooded area having thick growth of trees and plants
Greenwich Meridian	Imaginary line used to indicate 0° longitude. It passes through Greenwich, London and ends at the North and South Pole. (See page 4)
habitat	The natural home or environment of an animal, plant or other organism
latitude	Distance in degrees north or south of the equator (See page 4)
longitude	Distance in degrees east or west of the Prime Meridian (See page 4)
organic	Food produced without the use of chemical fertilisers, pesticides or other artificial chemicals
precipitation	Moisture that falls from the air to the ground, e.g. rain, snow, sleet, hail
rainforest	Dense forest found in tropical areas of heavy rainfall
river	Water flowing in a channel to the sea, lake or another river
season	Patterns that can be identified at a certain time of year
temperature	The degree of hotness or coldness in a substance, in this case the air
trade	The act or instance of buying and selling goods and services.
Tropic of Cancer	23.5° north of the equator and the most northerly position on the earth at which the sun may appear directly overhead (See page 4)
Tropic of Capricorn	23.5° south of the equator and the most southerly position on the earth at which the sun may appear directly overhead (See page 4)
vegetation	Plants considered collectively.

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Amazon Rainforest - Where it is in the world:

Place: The Amazon Rainforest

Countries: Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.

Continent: South America

The Amazon rainforest covers 2.1 million square miles of land and has existed for at least 55 million years. 60% is found in Brazil, 13% in Peru and 10% in Columbia.

The Amazon rainforest has been called the 'lungs of the Earth' because of the oxygen released by the trees, but since 2000, an area of Amazonia - the size of 50 football pitches - is being destroyed every minute.



Human features (the impact of humans):

Land use:

Logging

Indigenous tribal settlements (humans that have always been there)

Farming/animals/food/oils/minerals

Cultivation - making the ground suitable for growing.

Economy:

The rainforest is vital to Brazil as it helps produce things they can sell. Brazil trades the goods harvested from the rainforest with other countries such as: rubber, palm oil, timber, coffee and cocoa beans (for chocolate). The recent rainforest fires have meant far less money is being made from the rainforest

Physical features (the impact of nature):

Climate:

Tropical - hot and humid. The temperature is 79°F degrees for the entire year. It doesn't have seasons either.

Amazon River facts:

Runs through the Amazon rainforest.

Length: 6,400 km

Source: Mantaro River in Peru

Mouth: Atlantic Ocean

Biome: tropical rainforest

Hemisphere: southern, within the Tropic of Capricorn

Layers of the rainforest:

Emergent Layer

Tall trees that stand above the canopy layer. These trees enjoy the greatest amount of sunlight but also must endure high temperatures, low humidity and strong winds.

Canopy Layer

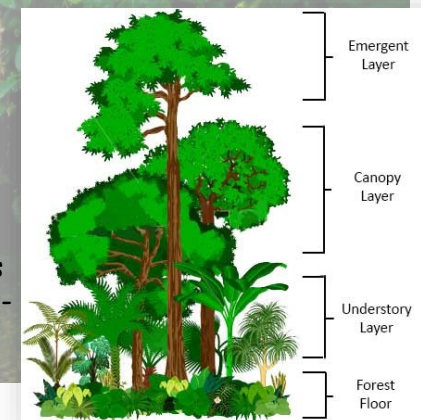
The top of the trees create a dense canopy 60 to 90 feet above the ground. The branches are often covered with other plants and tied together with vines. The canopy is home to 90% of the organisms found in the rain forest; many seeking the brighter light in the treetops.

Understory

Receiving only 2-15% of the sunlight that falls on the canopy, the understory is a dark place. It contains young trees and leafy plants that grow in low light.

Forest Floor

The forest floor receives less than 2% of the sunlight and consequently, little grows here except plants adapted to very low light. On the floor is a thin layer of fallen leaves, seeds, fruits, and branches that very quickly decomposes.



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The New Forest - Where it is in the world:

Place: The New Forest

Country: England

Continent: Europe

County: Hampshire

Biome: temperate forest inc. grassland & heathland

Hemisphere: northern



The New Forest is one of Britain's newest and smallest national parks. It has an area of 218 square miles that includes 86 square miles of woodland, 61 square miles of heathland and grassland, 57 square miles of farmland, 26 miles of coastland and 141 miles of footpaths.

How it got its name:

William the Conqueror created his 'Nova Foresta' in 1079AD so he had an area for royal hunting.

Human features:

Land use:

Forestry Commission (Forestry rights)

- **Pasture:** the right to keep ponies, donkeys, mules or cattle on the open forest. In some areas this may include sheep.
- **Mast:** the right to allow pigs out on the forest in autumn to eat acorns.
- **Estovers:** the right to gather wood fuel for personal use.
- **Marl:** the right to dig clay.
- **Turbary:** the right to cut turves of peat.

Logging Villages

Economy:

It is estimated that around £72 million are spent on leisure trips to the New Forest every year, and provides around 2,500 jobs. There is an estimated £12.5 million income generated by camping and caravanning alone.

The total number of visitors using the New Forest Park is estimated at around 13 million visitor days and this brings in around £107.6 million.

Physical Features:

Climate:

Temperate - changeable and unpredictable. As with the whole of the UK, it experiences seasons: Spring usually wet spells with some sunshine; Summer usually long warmer spells of sunshine; Autumn and mix of sun and wet spells but gets colder and Winter cold, wet and sometimes snowy.

Life in The New Forest:

The New Forest is home to various rare and important plants and animals including the Wild Gladiolus, the Southern Blue Damselfly and the Sand Lizard.

Ani-



mals:

New Forest ponies, donkeys, pigs, deer, cattle, snakes, lizards, variety of birds, badgers, rabbits, squirrels, moles, insects.

Plants:



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What is latitude and longitude?

To help locate where a place is in the world, people use imaginary lines:

- To find out how far **north** or **south** a place is, lines of **latitude** are used. These lines run parallel to the Equator.
- To find out how far **east** or **west** a place is, lines of **longitude** are used. These lines run from the top of the Earth to the bottom.

The **Equator** is at the centre of the lines of latitude and is at 0° latitude. Anything lying south of the Equator is in the **Southern Hemisphere** and is labelled °S. Anything lying north of the Equator is in the **Northern Hemisphere** and is labelled °N. The North Pole is 90° N and the South Pole is 90° S.

The line labelled 0° longitude is called the **Prime Meridian** or the **Greenwich Meridian** and runs through London. Anything lying east of the Greenwich Meridian is in the **Eastern Hemisphere** and is labelled °E. Anything lying west of the Greenwich Meridian is in the **Western Hemisphere** and is labelled °W.