

What I should already know:

What I should know already:

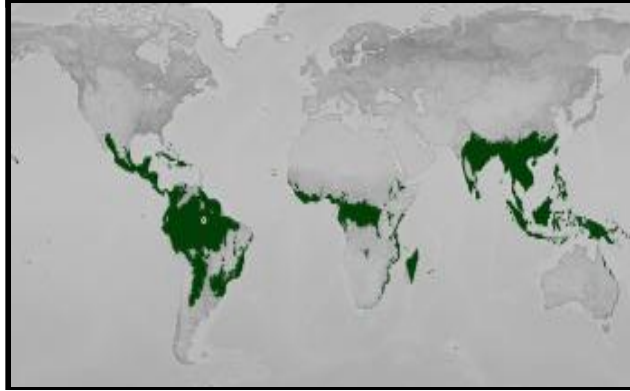
- Rainforests are important and need to be looked after.
- Animals and plants live in the rainforests.
- They are hot and rainy.



At the end of this topic, I will know:

- Where in the world tropical rainforests are located.
- What the Amazon rainforest is like.
- Who lives in the rainforest.
- How rainforests are changing.
- How is our local woodland used.

YEAR 4: Why are rainforests important to us?



Key Facts:

- **6% of the Earth's surface is covered in rainforest.**
- **50% of the plants and animals of the world live in rainforests.**
- **20% of our water is found in a rainforest in the Amazon Basin.**
- **25% of natural medicines have been found in rainforests.**
- **70% + of the plants that are used to treat cancer are found only in the tropical rainforests.**

Vocabulary

biome	An area of the world with a similar climate and landscape, where similar plants and animals live.
Emergent layer	The top layer of the rainforest with the tallest trees that get lots of sunlight, rain and wind
Canopy	The layer of overlapping branches and leaves below the top of the rainforest that gets sunlight, rain and wind
Understory	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.
deforestation	The cutting down of trees in a large area.
logging	The cutting down of trees for their wood
global warming	When our Earth's temperature rises because of the burning of greenhouse gases.