

CHARLES
DICKENS
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Brazil and the Amazon Rainforest

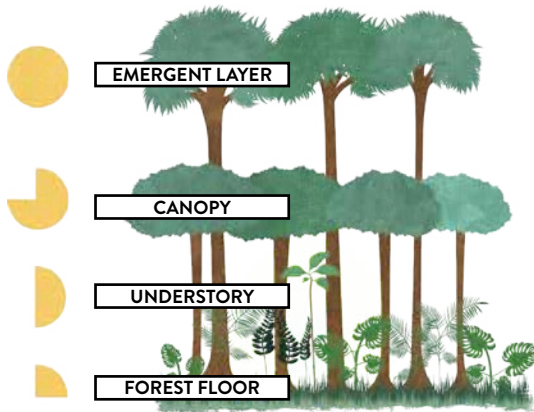


Name _____

Class _____

THE AMAZON RAINFOREST AND BRAZIL

KEY FACTS



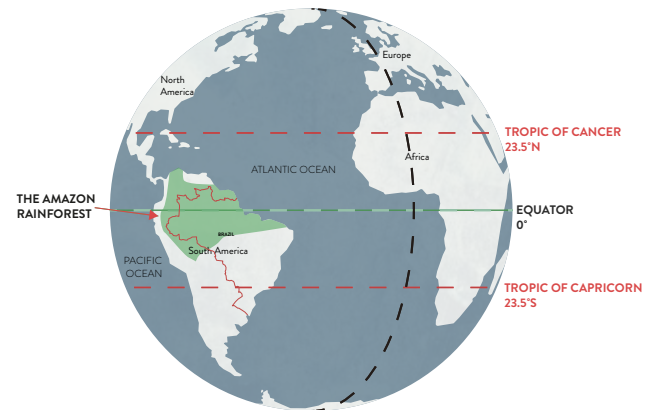
The Amazon Rainforest

- The Amazon rainforest takes its name from the Amazon, the world's largest river.
- The Amazon rainforest spans 9 countries: Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.
- Tropical rainforests are located in a band around the equator (0° latitude), mostly in the area between the Tropic of Cancer (23.5° N latitude) and the Tropic of Capricorn (23.5° S latitude).
- This 3,000 mile (4800 km) wide band is called the "tropics." Tropical rainforests thrive here because of the hot and humid climates where it rains virtually everyday.
- Rainforests cover just 6% of the Earth's land surface, but are home to over 80% of known terrestrial species.
- The rainforests are important because of the variety of life that they support (their biodiversity) and because they absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen.
- The rainforest is under threat of deforestation because of demand for wood for timber, as fuel and to make paper; clearing land for agriculture; road construction; the extraction of minerals.



Brazil

- The seven continents are: Africa, Asia, Antarctica, Australasia (Oceania), Europe, North America, South America.
- Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world, by both area and population and is located in South America.
- The capital of Brazil is Brasilia. Other major cities are Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.
- Brazil is the only country with the Equator and the Tropic of Capricorn passing through it.
- Brazil is bordered to the East by the Atlantic Ocean. and shares a land border with nine countries: Uruguay, Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana and Suriname.
- The official language of Brazil is Portuguese.
- Brazil is the world's most successful footballing nation, winning the World Cup a record five times.



KEY VOCABULARY



- continent:** a large land mass - one of seven in the world
- South America:** a continent - South of North America and home to Brazil and the Amazonian rainforest
- Amazon:** a South American river - the largest in the world
- rainforest:** a biome with high rainfall and warm temperatures
- hemisphere:** one half of the earth. The Northern Hemisphere is the part of the world North of the equator; the Southern Hemisphere is the half of the world South of the equator
- equator:** the imaginary line of latitude running around the centre of the earth
- biodiversity:** the variety of plants and animals on earth
- tropics:** regions spanning the equator between 23.5 degrees S and 23.5 degrees N

STRUCTURE OF THE RAINFOREST

Amount of Sunlight





EMERGENT

EMERGENT LAYER

The emergent layer consist of the tops of the tallest trees, ranging from around 40 - 80m in height, including the Kapok Tree. It houses many birds, bats, gliders, and butterflies. The top predators are white-tailed hawks and harpy eagles. The trees have broad leaves to make the most of the large amounts of sunlight received in this layer.



CANOPY

CANOPY LAYER

The canopy is the name given to the upper parts of the trees (about 20 to 40 m tall). This leafy environment is full of life: insects, arachnids, many birds, mammals and reptiles. Plants in the canopy include thick, snake-like vines and epiphytes ("air plants") like mosses and lichens.



UNDERSTORY



FOREST FLOOR



PART 1: THE STRUCTURES OF THE UPPER PART OF THE RAINFOREST

THE EMERGENT LAYER

The emergent layer is

This means it receives lots of

The trees in this layer have _____ so that

Animal life in this layer includes

THE CANOPY LAYER

The canopy layer is

This means it receives lots of

The trees in this layer have _____ so that

Animal life in this layer includes



Draw an animal that lives in the upper part of the rainforest: