



Year 4 – Tropical Rainforests

CRUCIAL KNOWLEDGE

A rainforest is an ecosystem

A rainforest has different layers

An ecosystem is an area made up of living and non-living things

It rains all year long in a tropical rainforest

Most tropical rainforests are found in very warm places (by the equator)

The equator is an imaginary line around the centre of the earth

EXTENDED KNOWLEDGE

A large ecosystem is called a biome

The Amazon Rainforest, South America, is the biggest tropical rainforest

Emergent layer is the tops of the tallest trees in the rainforest

Canopy layer is where the upper part of most trees are found

Forest floor is the base of the rainforest where shrubs can be found

Understory is the second level up in the rainforest, just below the leaves/top of trees

It can take 10 minutes for a raindrop to fall from the canopy to the floor

Groups of people live in tropical rainforests like tribes: the Yanomami and the Kayapo