



London Colney Primary and Nursery School – Knowledge Organiser

Name of Topic	Rainforests	Year Group	5
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Key Vocabulary and Spellings

1	canopy	The top layer where most tree branches and leaves form an umbrella
2	understory	The part below the canopy where some animals live
3	emergent	The layer above the canopy where trees emerge into the sky
4	habitat	The natural home or environment of an animal or plant
5	humid	A high level of water vapour in the atmosphere
6	equator	The horizontal line around the earth separating the northern and southern hemispheres
7	deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees
8	species	A group of living organisms with similar characteristics
9	predator	An animal that naturally preys on others
10	prey	An animal that is hunted and killed by another for food

Tropical Rainforests of the world

Top 5 Topic Facts

1	Rainforest habitats are forests located around the tropics, which is a zone around the equator.
2	There are five main spots where rainforest habitats are located – Africa, Asia, Australia , Central America and South America.
3	The largest rainforest habitat in the world is the Amazon rainforest in South America
4	About 80% of life in the rainforest can be found in the canopy, which is where the branches and leaves of most of the trees join up to form a kind of umbrella.
5	We depend on rainforests because they are so full of life, and all the plants and trees produce around 20% of the oxygen in the world that we need to breathe.

Key Investigations/Questions

1	Where are rainforests located?
2	What are the different layers of the rainforest?
3	What is deforestation and what impact does it have?
4	How many different plant and animal species can be found in the rainforest?