

Year: 4  
 Term: Summer 1  
 Topic: Rainforests



Physical processes

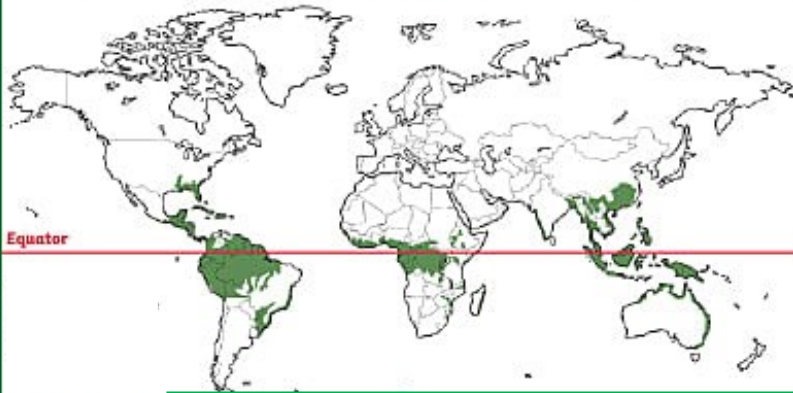


Human processes

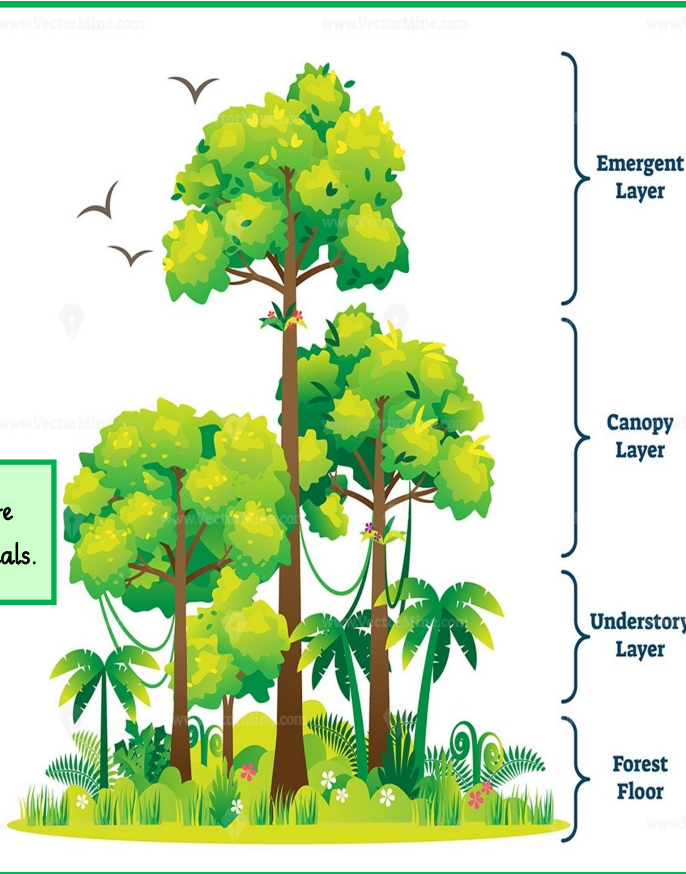


Diversity

## Tropical Rainforests of the World



Rainforests cover about 6% of the Earth's surface but are home to over half of the world's species of plants and animals.



The Amazon Rainforest is located in South America. It is hugely important for human life around the world, as it is responsible for much of the world's production of oxygen, but it is being destroyed at an alarming rate. An area the size of 20 football pitches is destroyed every minute!

### Glossary

- biodiversity** The variety of living things in a given place.
- biomes** An area of the world where specific plants or animals live.
- canopy** Dense layer of trees overlapping each other. Home to most of the rainforest animals.
- deforestation** Humans destroying an area by removing trees.
- ecosystem** An ecosystem is made up of all of the living and non-living things in an area.
- emergent layer** Giant trees that enjoy most sun but high winds and cold.
- Equator** Imaginary line around the middle of the world that receives the most sunlight.
- indigenous** Indigenous people are the first people to live in a place.
- Northern Hemisphere** Anywhere in the world north of the Equator.
- Southern Hemisphere** Anywhere in the world south of the Equator.
- undergrowth** Forest floor, consisting of fallen leaves, fruit etc that decomposes to provide food for animals and trees.
- understory** Relatively dark, open area below the canopy.