

Year 5 Knowledge Organiser Geography – The Amazon Rainforest

Key vocabulary	
South America	The continent in which the Amazon rainforest is located.
Emergent layer	The top layer of the Amazon rainforest. It covers the top of the trees. Birds like the harpy eagle fly there.
Canopy	The canopy is underneath the emergent layer. Monkeys and sloths are found there.
Understory	The understory is underneath the canopy. Jaguars are found there.
Forest floor	The bottom layer of the Amazon rainforest. The tapir and poison dart frog are found there.
Biodiversity	The variety of living things in an area (plants, animals and insects).
Deforestation	Cutting down forests and trees, often to make space for farms, roads or buildings.
Oxygen	A gas in the air that humans and animals need to breathe and stay alive.
Indigenous	Indigenous people are those who have lived there a long time.
Climate	The usual weather in a place over time.
Satellite image	Satellite images show changes in forests, such as where trees have been cut down.

Key knowledge
The Amazon rainforest is in South America and spreads across 9 countries , including Brazil, Peru, and Colombia. Most of the rainforest is in Brazil.
The Amazon rainforest helps the whole planet. Trees store carbon dioxide and produce oxygen which keeps the air we breath balanced. The rainforest also supports Earth's climate and weather.
The Amazon rainforest is under threat from deforestation , where trees are cut down for farming , roads, mining , and logging (selling wood).
Scientists use satellite images , maps , and graphs to study how the Amazon rainforest is changing over time. Satellite images show areas where trees have been cut down.

Key animals
In the emergent layer: Harpy eagle, scarlet macaw
In the canopy: Three-toed sloth, spider monkey, toucan
In the understory: Jaguar, boa constrictor
On the forest floor: Tapir, leafcutter ant, poison dart frog



LAYER OF THE RAINFOREST

