



Bridgewater Knowledge Organiser – Year 5 – Rainforest - Autumn 1

KEY VOCABULARY		RAINFOREST ANIMALS		Map of South America
equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth	macaw (bird)	Long tailed, colourful type of parrot.	
deforestation	The destruction of trees in a large area	tapir (herbivorous mammal)	Similar in shape to a pig. Tapirs live in South America near water and have long snouts.	
forest floor	The ground beneath the trees of a forest consisting of roots and soil	poison dart frog (amphibian)	Colourful frog with toxins in their skin. The skin is brightly coloured to keep predators away.	
understory	The layer of the rainforest underneath the canopy. It is hot and damp. Bushes and young trees grow here.	jaguar (carnivorous mammal)	The biggest predator in the Amazon Rainforest. Usually a lone, nocturnal hunter which leaps on its prey from above.	
canopy	A layer of overlapping trees and plants above the ground.	piranha (fish)	These sharp-toothed meat-eating fish can devour cattle and even humans. Attacks are rare.	
emergent	The top layer of the rainforest. There is a lot of sunlight and the tallest trees grow to this level.	caiman (reptile)	Type of alligator. Lie in shallow water and feed on land animals that come close to the water edge.	
habitat	The natural environment where an animal or plant normally lives	sloth (mammal)	Moves very slowly through the trees, so not to attract attention. Very endangered	
biome	A large area inhabited by plants and animals that live together e.g. rainforest, desert.	Reasons for Deforestation		
indigenous	Belonging to the country in which they are found, rather than being brought there from another country.	<i>Palm oil</i> - produced in trees in the Amazon and used in salad dressings, washing powder and fuels.		
predator	An animal that hunts, kills, and eats other animals.	<i>Cattle ranches</i> - around 10 million cattle in the Amazon region. Raised for consumption by humans.		
tribe	A group of people who live together, sharing the same language, culture, and history.	<i>Medicinal plants</i> - curare is produced in the Amazon (used by surgeons)		
agriculture	The science of farming and the methods that are used to raise and look after crops and animals			

Life processes

All living things demonstrate the following 7 life processes (MRS GREN)

M	Movement	All living things move, even plants.
R	Respiration	Getting energy from food.
S	Sensitivity	Detecting changes in the surroundings.
G	Growth	All living things grow.
R	Reproduction	Making more living things
E	Excretion	Getting rid of waste.
N	Nutrition	Taking in and using food.

Species of plants in the rainforest
 Rubber tree, orchid, cacao, giant water lilies, banana tree.