

# Rainforests

## Year 3 Term 3 – Geography

### Key Vocabulary

**Rainforest** a thick forest usually found in tropical areas with high rainfall. They make most of the world's oxygen.

**Topics of Cancer and Capricorn** imaginary lines north and south of the equator. Most rainforests are found between the two lines.

**Ecosystem** a group of plants and animals that depend on each other to survive.

**Deforestation** clearing lots of trees from an area.

**Habitat** the natural home of a plant or animal.

**Interdependent** when two or more plants or animals depend on each other.

**Flora** = plants **Fauna** = animals

**Camouflage** blending in to hide in the natural environment.

### Knowledge

Rainforests are made up of four layers called the undergrowth (forest floor), understory, canopy and emergent layer. Rainforests cover 6% of the world's surface but contain 50% of the world's plants. There are over 30million different species of plants and animals living in rainforests. A forest area the size of 20 football fields is destroyed every 60 seconds! Trees are cleared to grow crops (palm oil found in lots of foods) and graze cows (for beef). Local people's homes are destroyed and lots of species of plants and animals have become extinct because they have lost their habitats. Many things we have in our home come from rainforests—rubber, chocolate, sugar, medicines and bamboo.

### Skills

Children to identify the equator and locate the places on the Equator which are the hottest.

Using maps, locate the Equator, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

Analyse evidence and draw conclusions e.g. make comparisons between locations using photos/pictures, temperatures in different locations and population numbers.

Produce own pictures and labelled diagrams.

