	Geography	Rainforests	Year 4
Vocabulary		Layers	Deforestation
climate deforestation	The average weather conditions over a long period of time. The cutting down and clearing of forests.	Water & Sunlight Emergent Trees can be up to 60m tall. Lots of sunshine. Cold and windy. Birds, bats, monkeys and butterflies.	Trees are cut down: to create fields for farming cattle and growing crops, to produce timber and wood pulp to make furniture and paper, to create space for housing.
equator	An imaginary circle running round the centre of the earth.	The Trees form a roof over the plants below. Lots	Positive Impacts Negative Impacts
humid	Feeling very damp due to water vapour in the air.	Canopy of sunshine but also plenty of rain. Lots of food for animals. Snakes, foucans and tree frogs.	Jobs are created in logging and transporting timber
Native tribes	The original settlers of an area.	The Trees grow to less than 4m tall. Very little	and manufacturing products. • Animals and plants may become extinct
species	A group of similar animals or plants.	Understory sunlight. Warm and humid. Jots of insects.	through habitat loss. • Selling land raises
tropical	Somewhere that is warm all year round, but which has rainy seasons.	The Forest Floor Very few plants. Almost no sunlight. Leaves and debris decompose quickly. Gorillas, anteaters, leopards and tigers.	• Plants that may have been useful could be lost.
Where in the World?		Key Facts	
		Tropical rainforests are found north and south of the Equator between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.	



Tropic of Cancer

Tropic of Capricorn

Equator

A rainforest has many layers of vegetation (plants) growing within it. All of these plants grow to different heights and create layers within the rainforest.

Rainforests are home to over half the species of plants and animals in the world and are a fantastic source of foods and medicines.

Tropical rainforests cover less than 2 per cent of the planet, but contain an estimated 50 per cent of all life on earth's land masses.

Habitat loss is the main cause of extinction. Deforestation (at a rate of about 300,000km2 a year) has been caused by commercial logging, mineral extraction, commercial farming and subsistence farming.

