



St James' Church of England Primary School

Geography Overview Sheet



Year 3 – Rainforests



Rationale: The children will take a closer look at the mysteries of tropical rainforests. From the layers of the forest and its animal inhabitants, to the unique climate found in the tropics. They will compare a British forest with the Amazon rainforest, and begin to explore some of the conservation issues surrounding the destruction of rainforest habitats.

Pre-unit task: What do we know? KWL Grid/task

Attention Grabber:

Learning Objectives:

- To locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities
- To use maps, atlases, globes and computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied
- To describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle

Overview:

Lesson 1: Can I identify areas of the world containing rainforests?

Lesson 2: Can describe the key aspects of a tropical rainforest?

Lesson 3: Can describe and understand the features of the layers of a rainforest?

Lesson 4: Can I describe the animals and plants living in the rainforest?

Lesson 5: Can I compare the Amazon rainforest and Sherwood forest?

Lesson 6: Can I explain the effects humans are having on the rainforest?

Cross Curricular Links

English – Postcard, weather report

Art/DT- Design a rainforest animal

Resources

Atlases, Digi Maps, non-fiction books about UK (topic book pack and library), OS Maps of UK, images

Impact/Assessment

Most Children will: • Tell you more about one country where Rainforests are found • Use an atlas to find countries of the world where rainforests are found • Can find the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn on a map • Tell you that rainforests are found between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn • Tell you about the plants found in each layer • Name some of the animals that live in each layer

Less Able Children will: • Name some countries where rainforests are found • Label a map to show countries where rainforests are found • Find the Equator on a map • Tell you that rainforests are found near the Equator • Describe what the weather is usually like in a tropical climate • Name the four layers of a rainforest • Tell you about the climate in each layer • Tell you more about one animal living in a rainforest • Tell you some similarities between the Amazon rainforest and Sherwood Forest • Tell you some differences between the Amazon rainforest and Sherwood Forest • Tell you what deforestation means

More Able Children will: • Tell you the difference between weather and climate • Tell you some animals that live in each layer • Explain why different animals live in different layers