



Lowerhouse Junior School

Geography Overview Sheet



Year 5 – What creates a rainforest and why are they found where they are?



Rationale: **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.

Substantive Knowledge:

Locational Knowledge

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on South America.
- Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn).

Place Knowledge

- A region within South America.

Human and physical geography

- Describe and understand key aspects of:
 - physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts.

Overview:

Lesson 1: Where Are Rainforests Found? - Locate rainforests globally and understand their geographical positioning.

Lesson 2: Climate Zones and the Tropics - Understand the significance of latitude, longitude, the Equator, and the Tropics in relation.

Lesson 3: What Is a Biome? - Define biomes and describe the characteristics of a rainforest biome.

Lesson 4: A South American Rainforest - Study the Amazon rainforest as a region of South America.

Lesson 5: Mapping Rainforest - Use various types of maps and understand their differences.

Lesson 6: What Makes Rainforests Unique?

Key Vocabulary

Ecosystem - all of the living and non-living things in an area

Habitat - the place where a living thing makes its home

Camouflage - animals hide themselves by blending into its surroundings

Climate - weather and temperature usually found in a particular area

carbon dioxide - gas released when fuel is burned and when animals and humans breathe / plants use up carbon dioxide

oxygen - gas released by plants / breathed in by animals and humans

monsoon - wind that changes direction with the seasons

temperate - a climate with warm summers and cool summers

humid - having a high level of moisture in the air

equatorial - warm rainforests growing near the equator

tropical - tropics are warm all year around and rainforests can grow

indigenous - a living person or thing that belongs naturally to an area

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