What is life like in the Amazon?

Year 6

Knowing More, Remembering More

Remembering previous learning

Draw information from a simple map.
Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.
Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

What is a rainforest?
A rainforest is hot, wet, noisy and full of trees and animals.

What famous rainforest can you name?
We have learnt about the Amazon Rainforest.

What is a continent?
A continent is a collection of countries.

What are the points of the compass?
North, East, South, West

What is the 'tropical rainforest climate'?
They are hot and wet all year round– this creates a humid climate. The annual rainfall is high as it rains almost every day. The temperatures are constant all year round – the temperature range usually only a few degrees. There are no seasons.

What is the 'rainforest biome'?
The tropical rainforest biome is a hot, moist biome where it rains all year round. It is known for its dense canopies of vegetation that form three different layers.

What are the 7 continents?
North America, South America, Asia, Africa, Europe, Antarctica, Australia Oceania

What are the points of the compass?



What are some similarities and differences between North and South American cities?
Similarities: people from many places, big buildings and skyscrapers, places for entertainment (parks, museums, zoos, theatres), busy streets.
Differences: **Public Transportation** (In many South American cities, people use buses, trains, and subways a lot. In North American cities, especially in the United States, people often use cars more), **Languages** (In South America, most people speak Spanish or Portuguese. In North America, people mostly speak English, and in some parts, they speak French.) **Climate and Weather** (South American cities can be very different in climate. Some are hot and tropical, while others are cool and mountainous. North American cities mostly have temperate or cold climates.) **Historical Buildings** (South American cities often have very old buildings from the time when the Spanish and Portuguese were exploring. North American cities have a mix of old and new buildings, but many are newer compared to those in South America) **City Layout** (North American cities usually have a grid layout with straight streets. South American cities might have more varied street layouts due to their geography and history).
What are some of the [illegible] environmental regions of North and South America?
Pacific coastal strip, the mountains down the west coast of both continents (Rockies in North America and the Andes in South America), Canadian Shield, Great Plains/Prairies, Desert (e.g. in Arizona, Colorado), Great Lakes, Eastern coast, Caribbean and the Amazon River Basin (rainforest).
Where does rainfall go when it falls to Earth?
The water flows downhill, both over and through the ground, depending on the surface. Rainwater forms

In this unit children will...

- extend their knowledge and understanding beyond their local area to include South America
- develop their use of geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to enhance their locational and place knowledge
- locate the world's countries using maps, and concentrate on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities
- understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region in South America

Key Vocabulary:

Continent, country, region, river, river basin, source, mouth, names of continents and relevant South American countries and regions, locational vocabulary, longitude, latitude, north, south, east, west Weather, climate, seasons, forest, rainforest Primary and secondary source, human and physical features, city, state,

Key Learning Steps:

1. Where is the Amazon?
2. What would it be like to walk through the Amazon rainforest?
3. What is Manaus like?
4. Do people live in the Amazon rainforest?

Key Geographers and Inspirational People:



Ellen Churchill Semple,



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Knowing More, Remembering More

Knowing more in Y6

What nine countries does the Amazon region span? Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana
What does 'The Amazon' refer to? 'The Amazon' may refer to a river, a river basin or a rainforest region.
Where is the Amazon basin and Amazon River on a map of South America?
What is the climate in the Amazon? The Amazon has a wet and a dry season.
How is the climate in the Amazon different to the climate in the UK? The Amazon's tropical climate is marked by high temperatures, high humidity, and heavy rainfall year-round, while the UK's temperate maritime climate features more moderate temperatures, moderate humidity, and a mix of rain and dry periods with noticeable seasonal changes.
How are animals in the Amazon rainforest adapted to their habitat? Animals in the Amazon rainforest have evolved various adaptations to thrive in their complex and challenging environment. These adaptations include physical, behavioural, and physiological traits that help them survive, find food, and avoid predators. E.g. Jaguars, poison dart frog, sloth.
What are the key human and physical features of Manaus? Manaus, the capital of Amazonas state in Brazil, is distinguished by several key features:
(Human Features: A population of over 2 million, making it the largest city in the Amazon rainforest; Cultural diversity influenced by indigenous, Portuguese, and other immigrant groups; Historic architecture, such as the Amazonas Opera House.) (Physical Features: Located at the confluence of the Negro and Solimões rivers, forming the Amazon River; Dense tropical rainforest surrounding the city; Equatorial climate with high humidity and significant rainfall.)