Geography

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Layers of a Rainforest



Deforestation	The cutting, clearing and removal of a large area of trees.
Ecosystem	A community of plants and animals that depend on each other to survive.

A species that has been categorised as very likely to become extinct.

	The extinction of a species of
	animal or plant is the death of all
	its remaining living members

Indigenous people or things Indigenous belong to country in which they are found.

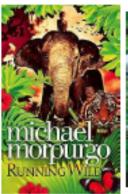
Biodiversity

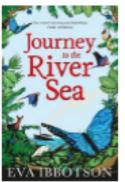
Endangered

Variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat, a high level of which is usually considered to be important.

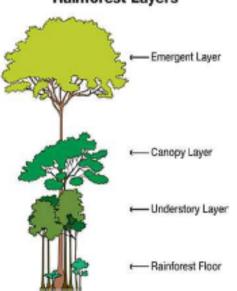
Exciting Books







Rainforest Layers



Emergent layer -- the tops of trees that poke up above the rainforest canopy. It is very sunny here and is home to birds, butterflies and bats.

Canopy layer - a dense layer of trees overlapping each other. Home to most animals in rainforests.

Understorey layer -- a tangle of shrubs, young trees and vines. It is hot and damp here and the air is very still.

Rainforest Floor - mainly consisting of fallen leaves, fruit etc. that decomposes as food for trees.

Deforestation

Causes of Deforestation

- To clear space for farming
- · Chopping down trees for wood
- · To build roads to mine for metals, gold and diamonds
- To dig for oil
- To flood areas to make dams and generate electricity

Impact of Deforestation

- Half of the tropical rainforests we had have now gone
- · 28,000 species of animal are expected to become extinct the next 25 years
- · Local people are forced to move home
- · Levels of oxygen in the air are decreasing whilst carbon dioxide are increasing