

Key Vocabulary

biome	An area of the world with a similar climate and landscape.
Tropic of Capricorn	Line of latitude south of the Equator- marks the southern edge of the Earth's hottest places.
Tropic of Cancer	Line of latitude north of the Equator- marks the northern edge of the Earth's hottest places.
lines of latitude	Invisible horizontal lines on the globe that show how far north or south a place is.
understorey layer	The layer above the forest floor that gets little light and is warm and damp.
canopy layer	The layer of overlapping branches and leaves below the top of the rainforest.
emergent layer	Top layer of the rainforest with the tallest trees.
deforestation	Cutting down of trees in a large area.
logging	Cutting down trees for their wood.
mining	Digging underground for precious metals and stones.
indigenous	People in an area whose ancestors were first to live there.

The world's biomes

biome

An area of the world with a similar climate and landscape, where similar plants and animals live.

- Tundra
- Temperate deciduous forest
- Tropical rainforest
- Savannah
- Desert
- Boreal forest

Tropic of Cancer

A line of latitude north of the Equator which marks the northernmost edge of the Earth's hottest regions.

Equator

An invisible horizontal line that splits the world into two hemispheres.

Tropic of Capricorn

A line of latitude south of the Equator which marks the southernmost edge of the Earth's hottest regions.

The Amazon rainforest

The Amazon rainforest is located in a tropical forest biome.

How have plants adapted in the rainforest?

Drip tips mean rain can run off leaves without damaging them.

Lianas (vines) wind their way up other plants to reach sunlight.

Thin, smooth bark ensures rain can run off trees easily.

Buttress roots keep tall trees stable in the wet soil and strong winds.

Threats to the rainforest

mining

The process of digging underground for precious metals and stones.

logging

The cutting down of trees for their wood.

deforestation

The cutting down of trees in a large area.