Prior learning:

Name and locate the 7 continents (Europe, Africa, Asia, North America, South America, Oceania, Antarctica)

Name and locate the 5 oceans (Atlantic, Pacific, Arctic, Indian, Southern)

The earth has <u>climate zones</u> and biomes (Y3).

Locate a region of North America and compare this region to a region in the UK.







Geography: Rainforests/ South America

Sticky Knowledge:

- Latitude is the distance a place is from the Equator, measured in degrees.
- The main lines of latitude are the equator, the Tropic of Cancer, the Tropic of Capricorn, the Arctic Circle, and the Antarctic Circle.
- Countries near the equator have a hot climate because sunlight hits most directly there.
- Rainforests are found in the Tropical climate zones.

Sticky Knowledge:

- A biome is a large area of land with a particular climate, types of plants and animals.
- A rainforest has many different types of vegetation (plants) growing within it.
- Rainforests have 4 main layers: emergent, canopy, understory, forest floor.
- Rainforests have a steady temperature, rains all year round, tall and varied trees and evergreen trees



THE EMERGENT LAYER: The tallest and oldest trees stand watch over the rest of the forest, providing habitat for large birds and primate species.

THE CANOPY: Between 50 and 90% of a rainforest's species live in the canopy. Leaves take advantage of the bright sun here to power the forest's rapid growth.

THE UNDERSTORY: Dark and gloomy, the understory is shielded from the weather above, making it a good nursery for young saplings.

THE FOREST FLOOR: Bacteria, fungi and insects rapidly decompose organic matter, recycling nutrients for use by other organisms.



Sticky Knowledge:

- Deforestation is a result of 'logging'.
- The Amazon Rainforest is referred to as 'the lungs of the Earth' due to its importance in supplying the world's oxygen.
- The Amazon Rainforest is rapidly decreasing as a result of deforestation, which impacts on the rest of the world.





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Key Vocabulary	
Continent	A large continuous mass of land
Climate	The description of the average weather conditions in a certain place for the past 30 or so years.
Emergent layer	This is the tallest layer of the rainforest. It is home to lots of birds, monkeys and insects.
Canopy	The main layer of the rainforest where most animals live, which blocks out lots of sunlight for layers below.
Understory	A dark, damp layer of the rainforest where smaller shrubs and trees can grow.
Forest floor	The bottom layer of the rainforest where the soil gets lots of nutrients from decaying creatures and plant debris.
Deforestation	The clearing, removal, or destruction of forests, typically for the purpose of human activities.