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**Vocabulary:**

Latitude, longitude, climate zones, biome, vegetation belt, climate, Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Equator, emergent, canopy, forest floor, understory

**Big ideas:**

Know that latitude are imaginary horizontal lines around the Earth (parallel to the Equator) whereas longitude are imaginary vertical lines that stretch from the North Pole to the South Pole.

Know that the majority of South America has a tropical climate and relate this to the Equator on a map.

Know that rainforests are warm and wet areas and are found between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

Know that the Amazon Rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest in the world with more than half located in Brazil.

Know that the rainforest biome is home to a variety of tropical plants and animals and found in regions that are warm all year round. Unfortunately, rainforests now cover less than 6% of our planet but still produce about 40% of our oxygen.

Know that the rainforest is made up of different layers (emergent; canopy; forest floor; understory) and some of the plants and animals found in each part.

Know that the Amazon Rainforest is home to indigenous people like the Awa tribe, and some of the threats that they are facing such as logging, farming, cattle-ranching and disease.

**SKILLS and knowledge links:**

Can identify eight-point compass directions (North, North-East, East, South-East, South, South-West, West, North-West) to follow and give directions.

Can use four-figure grid references to locate features on a map.

Locate the world's countries, using maps, atlases and aerial photography to focus on South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities.

Can relate continent, country and city using a map.

Can locate places studied in relation to the equator, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, and their latitude and longitude.

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

Can understand that animals and plants are adapted to the climate.

Can understand our food is grown in many different countries because of their climate.

**Subject: Geography**

**Year group: 4**

**Term: Summer**

**Unit name: Investigating South American Rainforests**

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**Prior learning:**

Year 4 T1 – rivers and the water cycle, the knowledge of which can be applied to this unit.

Year 4 – T2 – Biomes. Introductory work on biomes was completed which can apply directly to learning about South America in this unit.

In Year 3, children learn about Polar regions, which will provide a contrast to South America and studied a UK region. Children have developed map and atlas skills to gain an understanding of the world and put different regions in context.

In Key stage 1, children learnt the names a locations of the 7 continents and the 5 oceans.

A group of people in a forest

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A waterfall in a forest

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**Implementation:**

Learn about the Awa people and how they are at risk.

Children should have the opportunity to conduct virtual visits to tropical climates and other biomes through organizations such as Eden Project, Birmingham Botanical Gardens or Virtual Field Trips.

Use the 8 compass directions through practical application within the school grounds.

Use a variety of different types of atlas and maps.

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