

## What's The Big Idea?

### Big Idea Organiser

## Year 5's Book Study - Rainforests and Life Cycles

### Guiding Question: Can we make our own rainforests?

Year 5 Spring 1  
(Weeks 1-6)



#### Geographical Key Information:

Rainforests are located around the world and we can describe the location by using the terms: equator, southern hemisphere and northern hemisphere.

There are similarities and differences between rainforests across the world depending on where a rainforest is located.

Human and physical geography aids/threatens life in the rainforest.

#### Links to learning:

- ★ <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/rainforest/353695>
- ★ <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/nature/habitats/article/rain-forest>
- ★ <https://www.wartgames.com/themes/science/rainforests.html>
- ★ <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?q=rainforests>
- ★ <https://www.wwf.org.uk/where-we-work/amazon>



#### Science Key Information:

Animals and plants live in the rainforest and these can be classified into groups based on specific characteristics.

There are similarities and differences between the life cycles of mammals, amphibians, insects and birds.

The rainforest has changed overtime due to many reasons and this is having an indirect and direct effect on life within the rainforest and globally.

#### Knowledge Vocabulary:

tropical	The Amazon	hemisphere	canopy
temperate	deforestation	understory	emergent
life cycle	classification	equator	forest floor

#### Optional home learning activities -

**Week 1:** Create your own tower habitat of the rainforest.

**Week 2:** Make a fact file about the animals and plants that live in the rainforest.

**Week 3:** Explore local woods and forests. Do they have any similarities or differences to the rainforests we have been learning about in class?

**Week 4:** Create a life cycle wheel of an animal of your choice from the rainforest.

**Week 5:** Create a 3D model of an animal or plant from the rainforest.

**Week 6:** Read a book about the rainforest.

#### Recommended books:

- ★ The Explorer by Katherine Rundall
- ★ Animals of the Rainforest: Wildlife of the Jungle by Baby Professor
- ★ The Amazon Rainforest: Animal Facts & Photos by KC Adams

#### Enquiry questions:

- ★ When was the Amazon rainforest discovered?
- ★ How has the Amazon rainforest changed over time?
- ★ Where are rainforests located?
- ★ What can we do to help rainforests?
- ★ Why is the Amazon rainforest so important to the world?
- ★ Do any humans live in the Amazon rainforest?

**For our Guiding Question, we will be making our own rainforest terrariums. Please can all children bring in a jar with their name on by Friday 7th February 2025.**