

Finn's Rainforest Exploration Flashcards

Learning objective: To identify the key features, climate, and layers of a tropical rainforest and understand their global importance.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of rainforest geography. Finn the dolphin has been exploring the world's major rainforests—can you keep up with his findings?

Where are most of the world's tropical rainforests located?

They are mostly located near the Equator, in the tropical zone between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

What is the name of the top layer of the rainforest where the tallest trees poke out?

The Emergent layer.

Which layer of the rainforest acts like an umbrella, catching most of the sunlight and rain?

The Canopy layer.

Why is the Forest Floor so dark and damp?

Because the thick canopy above blocks out almost all the sunlight.

What do we call the clearing of trees on a massive scale?

Deforestation.

Define 'biodiversity' in the context of a rainforest.

The huge variety of different plant and animal species living in one habitat.

Why do rainforests have high humidity?

Because of the high levels of rainfall and the moisture released by plants through transpiration.

Explain why the climate in a rainforest remains warm all year round.

Because they are located near the Equator where the sun's rays are strongest.

Compare and contrast the Canopy layer with the Forest Floor.

The Canopy is bright, breezy, and full of life, whereas the Forest Floor is dark, still, and home to decomposers.

Justify why rainforests are often called 'the lungs of the planet'.

They absorb vast amounts of carbon dioxide and release oxygen, which is vital for life on Earth.

What might happen to the local wildlife if the Canopy layer was destroyed?

Many animals would lose their homes, food sources, and protection from predators, leading to a decline in biodiversity.

Explain why the soil in a rainforest is surprisingly thin and low in nutrients.

Because heavy rain washes nutrients away and fallen leaves decompose extremely quickly, with plants absorbing the nutrients immediately.