

Finn's Rainforest Exploration Fact-File

Learning objective: To identify and describe the key characteristics and layers of a tropical rainforest ecosystem.

Help Finn the dolphin map out the wonders of the rainforest! Use your knowledge of geography to complete this fact-file. Write clearly and use geographical vocabulary to describe how the plants and animals adapt to their environment.

Word bank: Emergent layer · Canopy · Understory · Forest floor · Humidity · Deforestation · Ecosystem · Equator · Precipitation · Biodiversity

1. Location and Climate: Where are most tropical rainforests found in relation to the Equator, and what is the weather usually like there? (2 marks)

2. The Four Layers: Choose two layers of the rainforest and describe the conditions found there (e.g., how much sunlight reaches them). (3 marks)

3. Plant Adaptations: Explain how a plant might adapt its leaves to survive in an environment with high levels of rainfall. (2 marks)

4. Biodiversity: Why is it important that rainforests have such a high level of biodiversity? What could happen if this is lost? (3 marks)

5. Human Impact: Briefly explain one reason why rainforests are being cut down and one way humans can help protect them. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a specific animal that lives in the rainforest. Write a short paragraph on the back of this sheet explaining which layer of the rainforest it lives in and how its body is suited to that specific home.