

Exploring the Emerald Canopy: A Rainforest Report

Learning objective: To use geographical vocabulary to describe the features, climate, and importance of tropical rainforests.

Use the prompts below to structure your report. Remember to use descriptive adjectives and geographical terminology to explain the layers of the rainforest and the importance of conservation.

Deep within the tropical regions near the Equator, a vast and vibrant world exists: the tropical rainforest.

Word bank: Equator · canopy · humidity · biodiversity · ecosystem · conservation · furthermore · consequently · in addition · vibrant · dense · interaction

1. Introduction: Define what a rainforest is and explain why the location near the Equator is significant for its climate. Start with: A tropical rainforest is... (2 marks)

2. Layers of the Rainforest: Describe the four distinct layers (emergent, canopy, understorey, and forest floor). Explain why creatures might prefer one layer over another. Start with: The rainforest is divided into layers, starting with... (3 marks)

3. Climate and Conditions: Explain the relationship between the high rainfall and the dense vegetation. Justify why this environment is described as having high humidity. Start with: Due to the high levels of precipitation... (3 marks)

4. Biodiversity: Compare and contrast the types of plants and animals found in the canopy compared to the forest floor. Start with: The biodiversity found here is immense, for example... (3 marks)

5. The Importance of Rainforests: Explain why these forests are vital to the health of our planet. Start with: Rainforests are often called the 'lungs of the Earth' because... (2 marks)

6. Conclusion and Conservation: What might happen to the global climate if deforestation continues? Suggest one way we can protect these habitats. Start with: Protecting the rainforest is essential because... (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an explorer documenting a new species. Write a diary entry describing how this creature has adapted to survive in the understorey layer, justifying why its specific features are necessary for its survival.