



read

THE LIVING WORLD

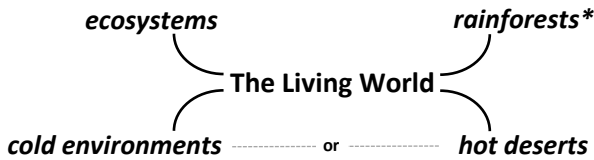
Rainforests



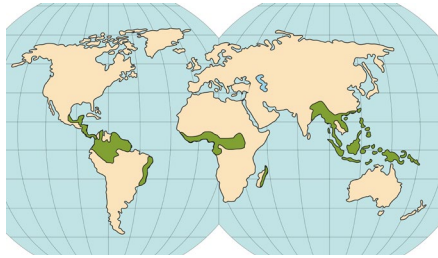
quiz



The Big Picture



Location



10°N and 10°S of the Equator

South America (Amazon), the DRC (Africa), Indonesia & Malaysia (Asia)



Key Terms

- Biome** – Areas of the planet with a similar climate and landscape, where similar animals and plants live.
- Biodiversity** – The variety of life in the world or a particular habitat.
- Commercial farming** – Farming to sell produce for a profit.
- Debt reduction** – National debt relief in return for protecting rainforests.
- Deforestation** – The chopping down and removal of trees.
- Ecotourism** – Responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and benefits locals.
- Logging** – Cutting down trees and selling the timber.
- Soil erosion** – Removal of topsoil faster than it can be replaced.
- Sustainability** – Progress meeting today's needs with affecting future generations.

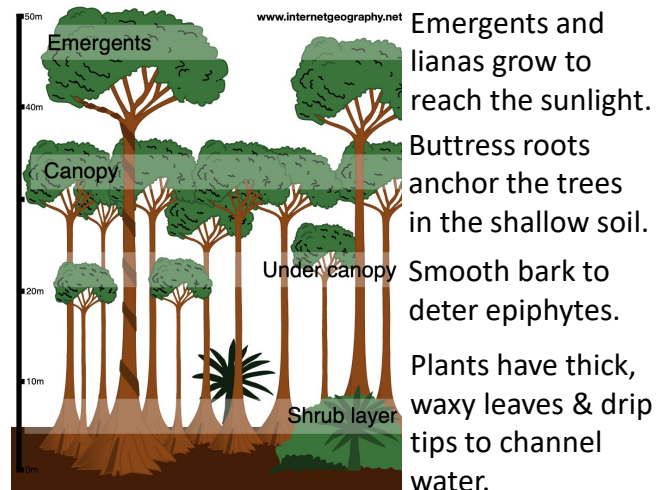


Characteristics

- Climate** - High temperatures (27°C) and high rainfall (2000mm +)
- Water** – Distinct wet season lasting several months. Leaching during this time.
- Soil** – Not very fertile. Nutrients concentrated in the topsoil & quickly absorbed.
- Biotic** – Highest biodiversity in the world. Thousands of species of plants and animals.
- People** – Traditional tribes live sustainably. Exploitation for \$\$ gain by non-indigenous.



Adaptations



Poison Dart Frog - bright colours deter predators.

Sloths - long, sharp claws that help them cling onto branches.

Spider Monkey - prehensile tail to be able to grasp the branches of trees.

Jaguars - large claws, which enable them to climb small trees and catch their prey.



The Nutrient Cycle

