

Subject Specific Vocabulary	
Agriculture	<i>the science/practice of farming, including cultivation of the soil for the growing of crops and the rearing of animals.</i>
Continent	<i>any of the world's main continuous expanses of land (Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, Australia, Antarctica).</i>
Deforestation	<i>the action of clearing a wide area of trees.</i>
Equator	<i>a line notionally drawn on the earth equidistant from the poles, dividing the earth into northern and southern hemispheres and constituting the parallel of latitude 0°.</i>
Longitude	<i>the measurement of distance east or west of the prime meridian. Lines of longitude, also called meridians, are imaginary lines that divide the Earth. They run north to south from pole to pole, but they measure the distance east or west.</i>
Latitude	<i>the measurement of distance north or south of the Equator. It is measured with 180 imaginary lines that form circles around Earth east-west, parallel to the Equator.</i>
Rainforest	<i>a luxuriant, dense forest rich in biodiversity, found typically in tropical areas with consistently heavy rainfall.</i>
River basin	<i>the portion of land drained by a river and its tributaries. It encompasses all of the land surface dissected and drained by many streams and creeks that flow downhill into one another.</i>
Shifting Cultivation	<i>an area of ground is cleared of vegetation and cultivated for a few years and then abandoned for a new area until its fertility has been naturally restored.</i>
Source	<i>the source of a river or stream is the original point from which the river flows.</i>
South America	<i>a continent situated in the western hemisphere and, mostly, the southern hemisphere, bordered on the west by the Pacific Ocean and on the north and east by the Atlantic Ocean; North America and the Caribbean Sea lie to the northwest.</i>

What is life like in the Amazon?



Sticky Knowledge about this topic

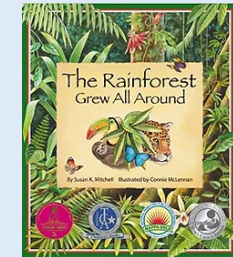
The Amazon is a vast region that spans nine countries: Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana and Suriname, as well as French Guiana (an overseas territory of France).

The Amazon represents over half of the planet's remaining rainforests and has an estimated 390 billion individual trees comprising of 16,000 species.

The region consists of a variety of ecosystems including rainforests, seasonal forests, deciduous forests, flooded forests and savannahs. However, the region is most renowned for its rainforest, which covers most of the Amazon Basin.

The Amazon is also home to more than 30 million people, and about 9% of these are indigenous people – 350 different ethnic groups, more than 60 of which still remain largely isolated.

Exciting Books



The Amazon River Basin is home to the largest rainforest in the world and covers almost 40% of South America. 5,500,000 square kilometres of the basin are covered by the rainforest, 60% of which is in Brazil.

The Amazon is home to an estimated 10% of all species found on Earth. Scientists estimate that there are at least 40,000 plant species, 427 types of mammal, 1,300 types of bird, 378 types of reptile, 400 types of amphibian, and around 3,000 types of freshwater fish.

The Amazon River is the largest river by discharge of water in the world – greater than the next seven largest rivers combined.

It is the second longest river in the world after the Nile, and has the largest drainage basin in the world – about 7,050,000 square kilometres – which accounts for approximately one-fifth of the world's total river flow.

