

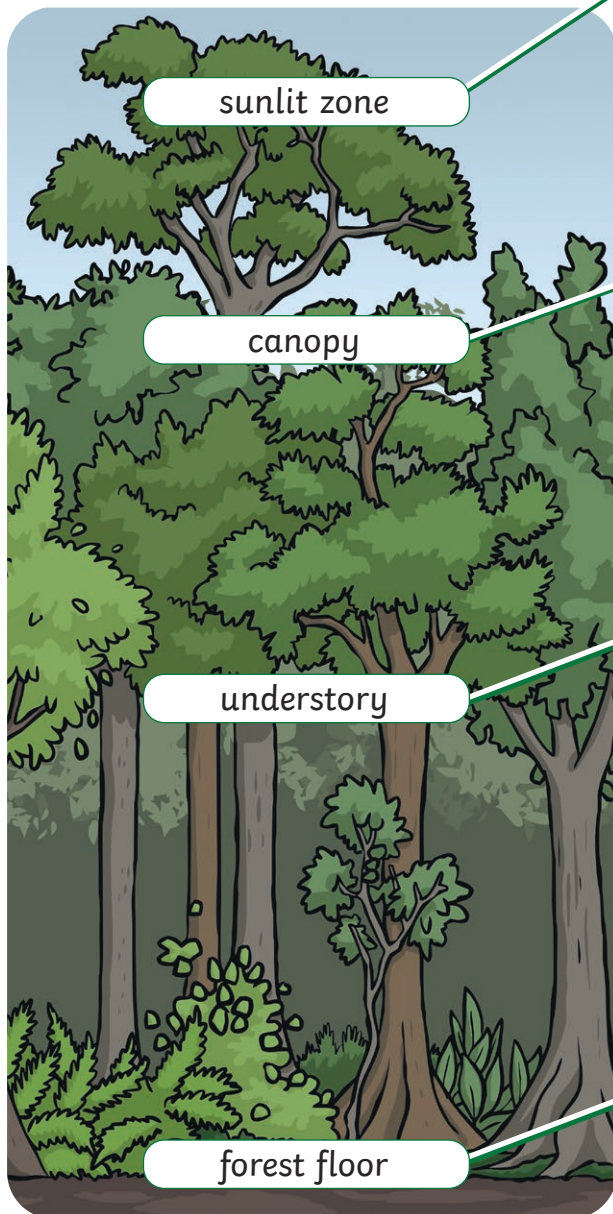
Rainforests

What is a Rainforest?

Rainforests are a type of forest that have tall trees, warm weather and lots of rain. They are found in hot places such as Africa, Asia and Australia. The largest rainforest is called the Amazon in South America.

Parts of a Rainforest

A rainforest is made up of different layers (parts).



The **sunlit zone** with the most sunlight and tallest trees. Up here it is hot, wet and windy.



The **canopy**, where the branches and leaves of the trees are so close together that they touch and join up to form a kind of umbrella.



The **understory** found under the canopy. It does not get much sunlight here.



The **forest floor** which is dark, damp and hot. Very little sun reaches the ground as the leaves of the canopy block the sunlight.



Animals and Wildlife

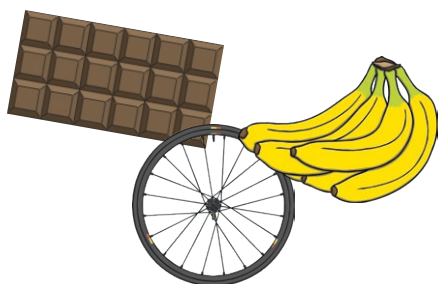
Rainforests are full of lots of different kinds of animals and wildlife. There are so many animals, that some have not yet been discovered!

Most of the creatures live in the canopy where it is hot and dry. Here the animals and reptiles move around by flying, jumping and swinging on the vines. Red-eyed tree frogs, sloths and toucans are some of the animals that live here.



Did You Know...?

- Rainforests get at least 200cm of rain every year and sometimes more!
- Rainforests give us oxygen that we need to breathe.
- We get many things from rainforests, such as bananas, chocolate, nuts, coffee and rubber.
- About $\frac{1}{4}$ of the medicines we use come from plants in the rainforest.



Rainforests – Questions

1. In which hot places are rainforests found? Tick **two**.

- ☐ Africa
- ☐ Antarctica
- ☐ Australia

2. A rainforest is made up of different layers. Can you match the name of the layer with the description by drawing lines to connect them?

sunlit zone •	• Found under the canopy. It does not get much sunlight here.
canopy •	• Has the most sunlight and tallest trees.
understory •	• Here it is dark, damp and hot and very little sun reaches the ground.
forest floor •	• The branches and leaves touch and join up to form a kind of umbrella.

3. In which part of the rainforest do most of the animals live?

4. Which three verbs (doing words) are used to describe how the animals and reptiles move around the canopy?

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____

5. Rainforests produce oxygen. Why is this important for us? Tick **one**.

- ☐ for eating
- ☐ for breathing
- ☐ for medicines