

South America: The Amazon | Year 6 | Autumn 1

I should already know:

The names of all the continents and oceans

Locational vocabulary: longitude, latitude, north, south, east, west

The characteristics of some **biomes** and how vegetation and climate are connected.

Facts and figures

- The Amazon River Basin is home to the largest rainforest in the world and covers almost 40% of South America.
- The Amazon represents over half of the planet's remaining rainforests and has an estimated 390 billion individual trees divided into 16,000 species.
- 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 mammals, 1300 birds, 378 reptiles, more than 400 amphibians and around 3000 freshwater fish in the Amazon.
- Estimates say there are approximately 30 million people living in the Amazon rainforest

Map of Amazon



Place of significance:

Manaus (Brazil)



Vocabulary

1	rainforest	an area of tall, mostly evergreen trees with a high amount of rainfall.
2	weather	the given conditions on a particular day.
3	climate	average weather patterns in a given place over 30 year period.
4	human features	things that are made or built by humans.
5	physical features	anything that is on the Earth naturally.
6	indigenous	The first people to live in a place.
7	shifting cultivation	an agricultural system that is used in rainforests.
8	nomad	a person who moves from place to place
9	deforestation	the clearing, or cutting down, of forests.

People of significance:

Amazonian Indigenous Tribes: Yanomami and Kayapo
Txai Surui: indigenous activist from Brazil

By the end of this unit I will:

- Be able to locate the 9 countries linked to the Amazon on a map or globe
- Know that 'The Amazon' may refer to a region, a river, a rainforest or a river basin.
- Have developed an understanding of the main features of the Amazon e.g. weather, climate, human and physical features, animals and their adaptations.
- Know about sustainable methods in agriculture such as 'slash and burn'.
- Make comparisons between the urban and rural communities of the Amazon basin.
- Know why we need to protect the Amazon and how we can contribute to this.