













# Rainforest: The Rainforest Climate

<p><b>Aim:</b> To identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime / Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night) in the context of rainforests.</p> <p>I can identify areas of the world containing rainforests.</p> <p>To describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle in the context of a tropical climate.</p> <p>I can explain the key aspects of a rainforest climate.</p>	<p><b>Success Criteria:</b> I can find the Equator on a map. I can tell you that rainforests are found near the equator. I can find the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn on a map. I can tell you that rainforests are found between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn. I can tell you the difference between weather and climate. I can describe what the weather is usually like in a tropical climate.</p>	<p><b>Resources:</b> <a href="#">Lesson Pack</a></p> <p>Sticky tack or short sticks for weather icons</p>
	<p><b>Key/New Words:</b> Climate, tropics, tropical, forecast.</p>	<p><b>Preparation:</b> One sheet from <a href="#">Rainforest Weather Forecast Activity Sheet</a> per child  One <a href="#">Weather Symbols Sheet</a> per pair</p>

**Prior Learning:** Children will have learnt about some countries with rainforests in lesson 1.

## Learning Sequence

	<p><b>Can You Remember Where Rainforests Are Found?:</b> Share the world map and the locations of the main areas of rainforest. <i>Can you remember the names of any countries with rainforests?</i></p>	
	<p><b>What Do You Notice?:</b> Show children the map with the areas of rainforest highlighted. <i>What do you notice about the location of most rainforests?</i> Draw children's attention to the Equator. (Rainforests are near to the Equator.) Share the map with the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn labelled. <i>What do you notice about the location of most rainforests now?</i> (They lie between the two tropics.)</p>	
	<p><b>Climate and Weather:</b> <i>What is the difference between weather and climate?</i> Discuss the children's ideas; explain that climate is the usual or average weather conditions over a long period of time, whereas weather is the specific meteorological conditions on a given day.</p>	
	<p><b>What Is the Climate of a Rainforest?:</b> Explain that between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, the weather is hot all year round. Rainfall is consistent throughout the year.</p>	
	<p><b>What's the Weather Like?:</b> Children work in mixed ability pairs to look at information about the climate and weather in a rainforest area. They use the <a href="#">Rainforest Weather Forecast Activity Sheet</a> to write a weather report for their chosen area and create the icons they will need.</p>	
	<p><b>Today's Weather...</b> Use the world map as a background, and weather symbols images for children to present their written forecasts to the rest of the class.</p>	

## Taskit

**Modelit:** Use polystyrene craft balls or papier-mache to make model globes, showing the Equator, the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, the UK and the locations of the rainforests. You could try using this [3D Globe](#) paper model activity.

**Writeit:** Provide [Rainforest Postcard Writing Templates](#) for children to write pretending they are on holiday in the rainforest – what would they tell their family about the weather they are experiencing?

**Graphit:** After recording the weather (including temperature, precipitation and wind speed) in a UK location and a rainforest location for a week, line graphs, bar charts and pictograms can be used to compare the two.

**Testit:** What would be good clothes to wear in a rainforest climate? Children could test absorbency or speed of drying of different materials.