











Rainforests: Protecting the Rainforest

Aim: To describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water in the context of rainforest conservation. I can explain the effects humans are having on the rainforests.	Success Criteria: I can tell you what deforestation means. I can tell you why deforestation is happening. I can identify positive effects of deforestation. I can identify negative effects of deforestation. I can tell you some things I can do to help limit the impact of deforestation.	Resources: Lesson Pack
	Key/New Words: Deforestation, soil erosion, impact.	Preparation: Deforestation Effects Activity Sheet per group (print A3 / enlarge to A3 if possible) Rainforest Promise Activity Sheet as required

Prior Learning: It will be helpful if children have experience of discussing issues as a group to reach a consensus.

Learning Sequence

	Why Does the Rainforest Need Protecting? Show this BBC video clip about the rainforest and encourage children to focus on the presenter's final comment – <i>why might survival in the rainforests be so hard?</i> (The habitat is disappearing, there is competition for space and resources.) Next, the Vimeo clip shows the rate at which rainforests are disappearing. <i>Why do you think trees are being chopped down? Give children a chance to answer</i> , then share the list of reasons why forests are being cut down.	
	Positive or Negative Impact? In mixed ability groups, children use the Deforestation Effects Activity Sheet to sort statements into positive and negative impacts. They then try to order these into those they think are most important to those that are least important.	
	What Did You Decide? Go through each statement card in turn and discuss what the groups decided. <i>How did you choose which were important effects and which were less important?</i>	
	What Can Be Done? Share the list of possible actions with children. <i>What effect would adopting each idea have? Which negative impact would it help to limit?</i>	
	What Can I Do? Ask children to think about the ideas discussed about what we can do. Which one would they like to adopt as their promise to protect the rainforests? Children use the Rainforest Promise Activity Sheet to record their idea. These could then be added to a class display.	

Taskit

Debateit: Use the [Deforestation Debate Cards](#) to hold a class debate about the issues of deforestation in the rainforests.

Readit: Read 'The Lorax' by Dr Seuss and discuss the author's message: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

Compareit: Some areas of rainforest are being destroyed to make way for farmland to grow coffee and cocoa. Fairtrade produced products are grown in a way that minimises the amount of deforestation. Find out more about Fairtrade products, and perhaps even try a few in your classroom.

Writeit: Children could make their own information books to share what they have learnt about the rainforest. Children could use these [Editable Rainforest Topic Book Covers](#), [Rainforest Page Borders](#) and even add their own [Rainforest Glossary](#).