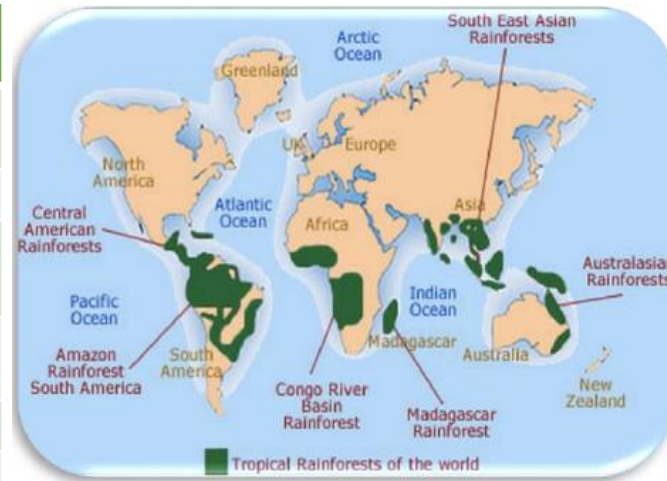


# How do rainforests lessen the impact of climate change?

Scientific/geographic word	Definitions
Rainforest	A dense forest, normally found in tropical areas with high rainfall. They generate much of the world's oxygen.
Country	A nation with its own government .
Continent	The world's main continuous pieces of land (Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America, South America and Antarctic).
Ecosystem	A community of plants and animals that depends on each other to survive.
Deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees.
Habitat	The natural home or environment of animals, plants or organisms.
Interdependent	When two or more people or things rely on each other.
Carbon sink	Any reservoir, natural or otherwise, that absorbs more carbon than it releases, and thereby lowers the concentration of CO2 from the atmosphere.
Conservation	Conservation is a movement focused on protecting species from extinction, maintaining and restoring habitats, enhancing ecosystem services and protecting biological diversity.



## Interesting facts

Rainforests cover approximately 6% of the Earth's surface by containing more than half of the world's plants. About 90% of organisms are found in the canopy.

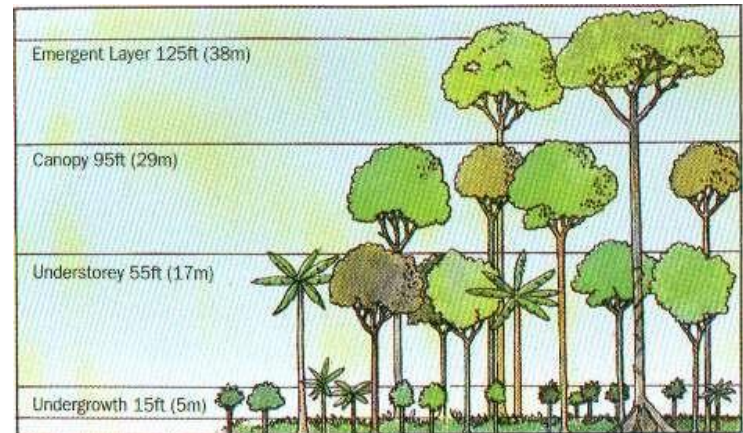
About 30 millions species of plants and animals live in the tropical rainforest.

There are two types of rainforests – Tropical and Temperate. Tropical rainforests are closer to the equator and temperate ones are found nearer the north or south of the equator.

Many things we have in our homes come from rainforests including: chocolate, sugar, rubber, bamboo and many medicines.

The average rainfall in the rainforest is the highest for any ecoregion on Earth. The average rainfall in most rain forests is very heavy, about 200–450cm (80–180 inches) per year.

Location, layers and features	
Emergent layer	Giant tree that enjoy the most sun but experience high winds and cold
Canopy	Dense layers of trees overlapping each other. Home to most animals in the rainforest.
Understory	Relatively dark, open area below the canopy.
Undergrowth	Also known as the forest floor, mainly consisting of fallen leaves, fruits etc. that decomposes as food for trees.
Flora & Fauna	Flora = plants Fauna = animals
Climate	The weather conditions prevailing in an area in general or over a long period.
Nocturnal and diurnal	Nocturnal = animals that come out at night and sleep all day. Diurnal = animals that come out in the day and sleep at night.
Camouflage	Blending in to hide in the environment.
mimicry	Copying the look, sound or behaviours of something.



**Did you know?**

- As temperatures increase, so do forest fires. Tropical rainforests typically get over 100 inches of rain a year, but each year this number decreases — creating a chain effect of consequences.
- Local farmers depend on the crops commonly grown in the rainforest including coffee, bananas, lemons and peanuts to make money and to feed their families. Therefore it could lead to food shortages and an economical decline.
- Tropical Rainforests are home to nearly 30 millions species of plants and animals, which heavily rely on another for survival. As plant growth dwindles, these animals become vulnerable.

**Conservationists**

**David Attenborough** – dedicated to climate change and environmental emergencies. He supports and is the founder of may conservation trusts.

**Gerald Durrell** – Created the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust and set up Jersey Zoo.

**Jane Goodall** - protected chimpanzees and inspires people to conserve the natural world; to improve the lives of people, animals and the environment.

**Samuel Ngueping** – motivated by the conservation in Africa after observing the loss of elephants in his home country.

**Steve Irwin** – Concerned with endangered animals and land clearing leading to loss of wildlife.

**Pete Markham Scott** – founder of World Wildlife Fund.