

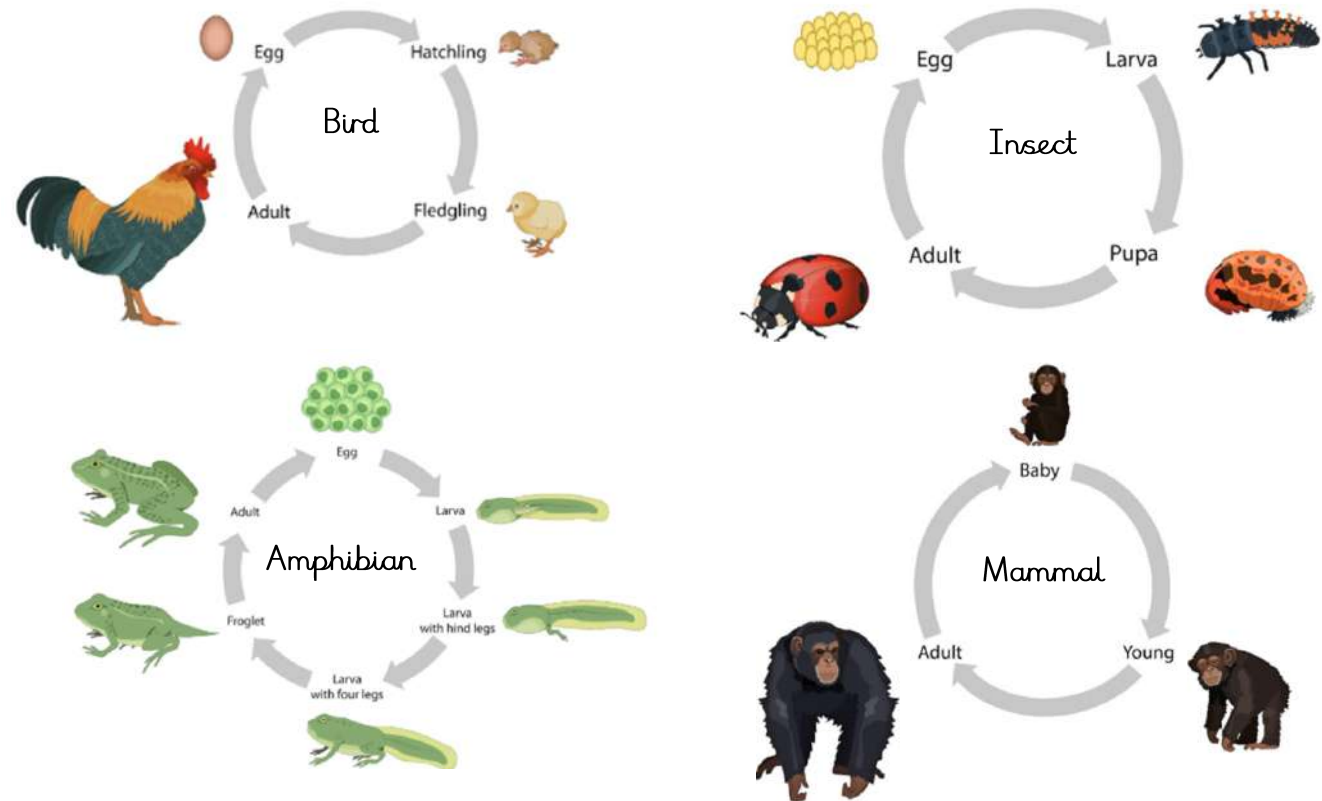


Y5: Rainforests and the Kingdom of Benin

How unique is our planet?



Life Cycles



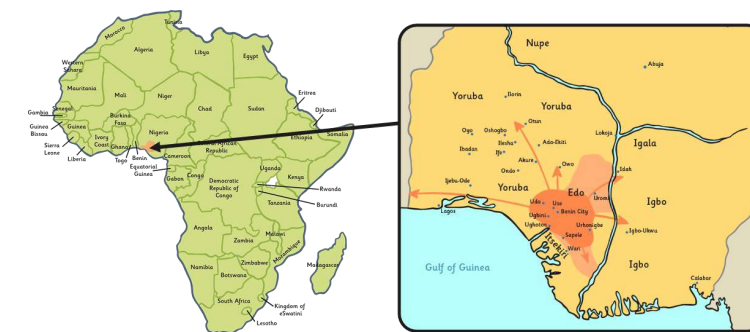
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The Kingdom of Benin begins.	Eweka (new ruler) calls himself the Oba.	The 'golden age' begins, lasting until 1700AD.	The Edo people begin trading with Europe.	British forcibly enslave the people of Benin.	British invade Benin. Benin city is destroyed. Britain colonise Benin.



Europeans traded with Benin. They traded manillas (currency) for peppers, cotton cloths, leopard skins, palm oil and coral beads.



The Kingdom of Benin Located in Igodomigodo/Edo, which is now Nigeria in Africa.



Rainforests

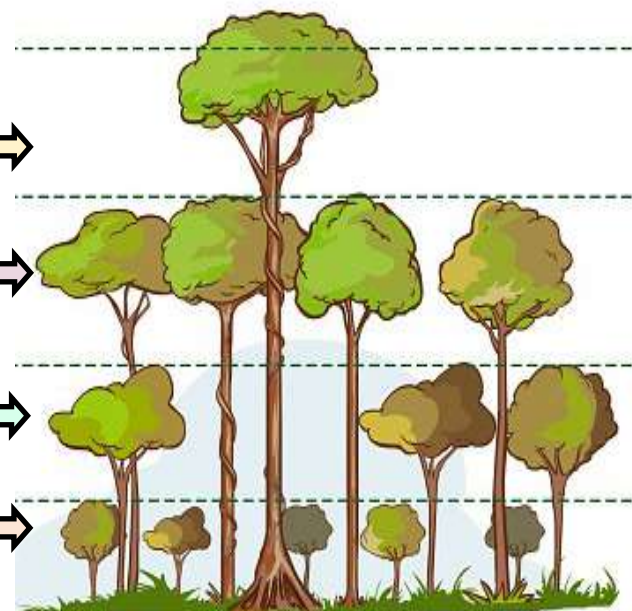
- A biome is a large natural community characterised by its habitats (vegetation, soil, climate and wildlife).
- The tropical rainforest is a biome which has rainy weather and pleasant, warm temperatures.

Emergent layer: Over 40m high. Dry conditions as it is very sunny.

Canopy: 30-45m, the tops of the trees form a thick canopy.

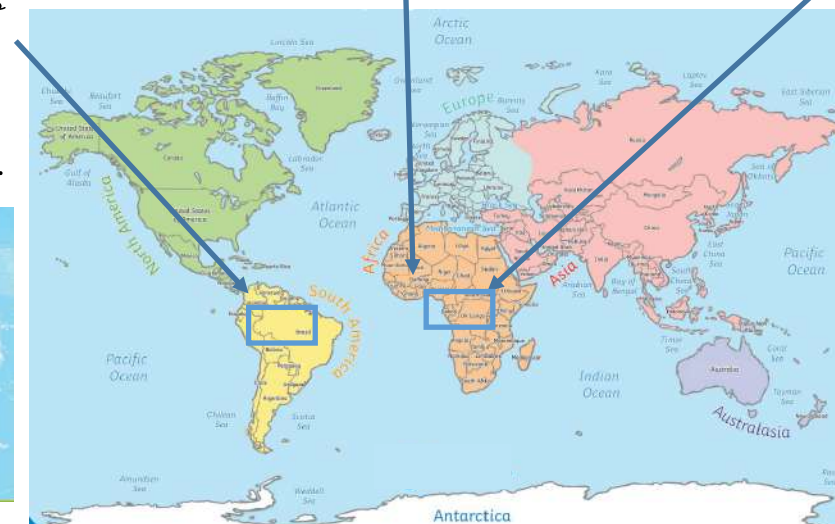
Understory: low light conditions. A layer made up of young trees and shrubs.

Forest floor: Very little light. Plants grow by the rivers.



Amazon Rainforest:

The Amazon rainforest is found in South America and spans across eight countries including Brazil.



The Congo rainforest:

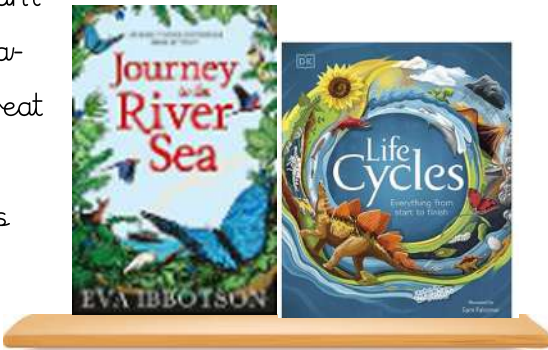
The Congo rainforest spans across six countries including Congo, Cameroon and Gabon.

The books we'll use to support our topic:

Benin, Izzi Howell - was an important kingdom in West Africa in the 15th and 16th centuries. Find out about Benin's magnificent capital city, the objects that Benin traded with Europe and their intricate bronze plaques and statues. Read about food and farming, armies and weapons, the life of a craftsman and how to make a leopard statue!



Journey to the River Sea, Eva Ibbotson - Maia, an orphan, can't wait to reach her distant relatives a thousand miles up the Amazon. She imagines a loving family with whom she will share great adventures. Instead she finds two spiteful cousins who see the jungle as the enemy and refuse to go outdoors. But the wonders of the rainforest more than make up for the hideous twins and their parents.



Life Cycles—Everything from start to finish - Everything begins and everything ends - but what happens in between? Find out in this stunning nature book. Learn about human life and development, processes in nature, how animals change over time, how the universe was formed, and so much more.

Key Vocabulary

Physical features	Features we can see that exist naturally such as rivers, mountains and seas.
Human features	Features we can see around us that have been built by people such as houses, roads and bridges.
Tropics	Warm regions of the world which lie above and below the equator.
Climate	Consistent weather conditions in an area.
Deforestation	The clearing of trees and forests for use and trading.
Colonise	To send settlers to a place and establish political control over it.
Humid	High level of water vapour in the atmosphere impacting on weather.
Hemisphere	Half of the earth, divided into 2 halves normally at the equator.

Key skills we'll be building on:



In art, we will show an understanding and appreciation of how different artists from different cultures, styles and historical periods develop, express and represent their ideas.



In computing, we will be understanding and using data bases.



In RE, we will investigate Sikh stories and how they can be important today.



In Spanish, we will be using our number vocabulary to talk about the date, la fecha, including the days of the week and months of the year.



In science, we will learn about the different parts of a flower and investigate the effect that climate has on landscape, animals and plants.



In music, we will understand and use pitch - high and low - whilst practising songs for Trust Choir.



In PE, we will gain confidence in swimming and swim using different strokes.

Our questions of the week...

Week 1

Where are the rainforests?
To create printed rainforest and locate them.



Week 2

What are the layers of the rainforest?
To create a lift the flap explanation of the rainforest layers.



Week 3

What is the impact of deforestation on the rainforest and world?
To write a non-chronological report about the rainforest using our art printing as the background.



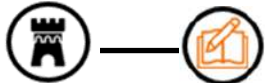
Week 4

What was the Kingdom of Benin?
To annotate pictures of the Benin Bronzes showing appreciation for the skill and intricate designs and the influence they have had on modern day art.



Week 5

What was the lifestyle of the people of Benin?
To write a paragraph which sets the scene of life in the Kingdom of Benin.



Week 6

What was life like when the British Empire took over?
To write a narrative about discovering the Kingdom of Benin.



Try this at home:

Have a look at this sneak peak of our learning this half term!

