Year 6 Geography Knowledge Organiser

Topic: Biomes and Climate Zones



Key questions:

What is a biome? How many biomes are there?

What is a **climate zone**? What is the predominant climate zone in a specific area?

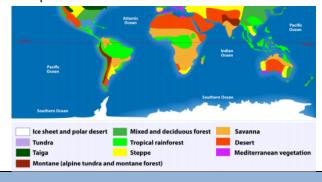
What are the main threats to these biomes? What is the human impact?

Key knowledge:

A **biome** is a way to describe a large group of **ecosystems** (community of plants and animals). Biomes have similar weather, rainfalls animals and plants.

The main biomes are the rainforest, savanna, desert, temperate forest, grassland, tundra and taiga.

Most threats to these biomes are related to human activity: **pollution**, **deforestation**, **hunting**, **cattle herding etc.**



Canopy Layer Understory Layer Forest Floor

Humans are having a huge impact on rainforests through **deforestation**

Key knowledge:

Rainforests are huge forests that get a lot of rain and heat.

There are two types: **tropical** (located in the warm zone, near the Equator) and the **temperate** (located in the temperate zone further away from the **Equator**). Most rainforests are tropical.

Layers of the rainforest: **Emergent Layer, Canopy, The Understorey** and **Forest Floor.**

Rainforest are very important in the **ecology** of the Earth. Plants of the rainforest produce most of the **earth's oxygen**.

Birds, insects, jaguars, monkeys and sloths are typical animals within the rainforest. All have **adapted (evolved)** individual features through **natural selection** that help them to survive these conditions.

Key vocabulary:

Climate zone: division of the Earth's climates into zones according to average temperatures and rainfall.

Climate- the weather of an area over a long period of time.

Savanna: area comprised mostly of grasses and a few scattered trees.

They are located in Africa, Australia, South America and India.

Desert: arid land with usually sparse vegetation. Largest deserts are in the Antarctica and Africa.

Grassland: large area of land covered with grass. They are mainly located in Europe, South Africa and North America.

Tundra: plain area that is characteristic of arctic and subarctic regions.

Taiga: coniferous forest located in the northern regions of the world.

Deforestation: removal of a forest or stand of trees from land which is then converted to a non-forest use.

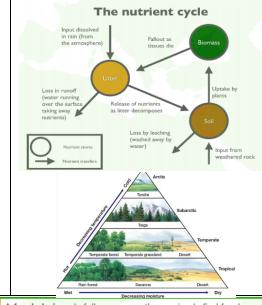
Equator: imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole.

Output:

Create a factfile about different biomes and climate zones Research and presebt information about the human impact on rainforests

Write a diary entry from the point of view of an indigenous tribal person

Debate and write a persuasive argument from the point of view of a range of stakeholdesr on human involvement in the rainforest.



A **food chain** only follows one path as animals find food. eg: A hawk eats a snake, which has eaten a frog, which has eaten a grasshopper, which has eaten grass. A **food web** consists of many food chains. It shows the many different paths plants and animals are connected.

