

Vocabulary

G e o g r a p h y	biodiversity	the variety of life
	biome	large naturally occurring community of flora and fauna occupying a major habitat - to name biomes 1. ice cape, tundra, coniferous forest, deciduous forest, evergreen forest, mixed forest, temperate grassland, tropical grassland, mediterranean, desert scrub, desert, highlands
	canopy	top layer (roof) of the rainforest
	deforestation	the action of clearing a wide area of trees.
	ecosystems	all living and non-living things in an area
	emergent	the tops of the trees that poke up above the canopy of a rainforest
	environment	all the surroundings of a place
	exploited	used for someone's advantage
	fauna and flora	animal or plant life of a region
	forest floor	layer of soil and debris on the forest land
	habitat	home
	species	group of similar animals or organisms
	tropical rainforest	a tropical woodland with an annual rainfall of at least 100 inches.
	understorey	a layer in the rainforest just beneath the canopy
S c i e n c e	Sustainable	something able to be continued at the current rate
	unsustainable	cannot be continued
	adaptation	being changed
	classification	a category into which something is put.
	evolution	how different kinds of living organisms are believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the earth.
	genetically	how behaviours are passed from parent to offspring
	invertebrate	an animal lacking a backbone
	life cycle	the series of changes in life of an organism
	metamorphosis	process of an insect or amphibian changing into its adult form
	organism	an individual animal, plant, single cell life form
	plantlets	small or young plants
	pollination	part of the plant life cycle
	reproduction	create new plants and animals
	vertebrate	an animal with a backbone
H i s t o r y	astronomers	an expert in the study of stars and galaxies
	calendar	a chart with days, weeks, months and years
	civilisation	how people have developed and live together
	Palenque	a Mayan city
	Tikal	a Mayan city

Why is it important to look after our world?

Year 5 Crew
Knowledge Organiser
Terms 5 and 6

Enquiry questions

- What's around me that's important?
- How can we look after our environment?
- Why do we need to be sustainable?
- Where are the greenest places on Earth?
- Who were the Mayans?
- If we damage the world, what will happen?
- How can you make a difference?

Key Facts

The Mayan civilisation began in a place called Mesoamerica. They were experts at reading the stars.

The Mayans were the first civilisation to develop writing and were sophisticated mathematicians. Tropical rainforests are found between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

Tropical rainforests contain far more species of plants and animals than any other biome.

They cover approximately six per cent of the Earth's surface, and because they get 2,000 mm of rain per year. Temperatures range from around 27 to 32°C.

Rainforests are important because they provide oxygen.

In some areas, there is pressure to use rainforest resources to help development but this can lead to resources being exploited in an unsustainable way.

A plant's features are adapted to pollination by insects or wind.

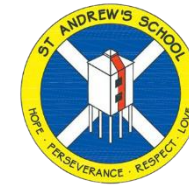
The threats faced by animals like chimpanzees could lead to the extinction of the species.

Anchor texts

Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho Yen

The Giant and the Sea by Trent Jamieson

The Crown by Emily Kapff



Key Dates

400 city-state of Teotihuacan becomes the dominant city and rules over the Maya highlands.

560 city-state of Tikal is defeated by an alliance of other city-states.

600 Teotihuacan declines and is no longer a cultural centre.

600 city-state of Caracol becomes a major force in the land.

900 Teotihuacan is abandoned.

925 Chichen Itza becomes the most powerful city-state in the region. It will rule for the next two hundred years.

1250 Chichen Itza is abandoned.

1283 Mayapan becomes the capital city of the Maya civilization.

1441 The people rebel against the rule of Mayapan.

1517 arrival of the Spanish and conquistador Hernández de Córdoba

1519 Hernan Cortes arrives and explores the Yucatan Peninsula.

1541 Many Mayan city-states are conquered by the Spanish.

1542 The Spanish found the city of Merida.

1695 The ruins of Tikal are discovered by a Spanish priest who is lost in the jungle.

Diagrams

