

## **Amazing Amazon**

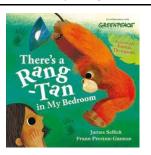
The Amazon is the world's largest tropical rainforest, covering over 5.5 million square kilometres. It is so big that the UK and Ireland would fit into it 17 times! Located in South America, it spans across Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana. The Amazon is home to a whole host of fascinating and deadly creatures, including electric eels, flesh eating piranhas, poison dart frogs, jaguars and some seriously venomous snakes! Due to the thickness of the canopy (the top branches and leaves of the trees), the Amazon floor is in permanent darkness. In fact, it's so thick that when it rains, it takes around ten minutes for the water to reach the ground! This half term, Year 4 are going to dive into exploring this amazing environment and the dangers that it faces.

Year: 4
Term: Spring 1



Key Vocabulary	
Vertebrate	Animals that have a backbone inside their body.
Invertebrate	Animals that don't have a backbone.
Rainforest	A tall, dense forest that receives lots of rain every year.
Habitat	A natural environment that an animal lives in.
Environment	The physical surroundings on Earth are called the environment.
Continent	A continent is a large solid area of land. Earth has seven continents.
Country	A country is land that is controlled by a single government.
Classification	The grouping together of similar species of plant, animal and other organisms.
Deforestation	The clearing, or cutting down, of forests.
Amazon	The world's largest tropical rainforest. It is located in northern South America.
Human geographical features	Focuses on where people live, what they do, and how they use the land.
Physical geographical features	The study of the Earth's natural features, such as mountains, rivers, deserts and oceans.









## **Objectives**

- recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways
- explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment
- recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things
- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied
- locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North
  and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities
- describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle

## What I should already know?

- explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive
- identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other
- identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats
- describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify
  and name different sources of food