Geography

To describe key features of physical geography including climate zones



Your task is to create a world map based on the rainforests of planet Earth. Begin by highlighting the areas on your world maps (provided) to show where the rainforests are located. You must also include/indicate:

- Which rainforests are the Amazon, African and South East Asian;
- The equatorial line;
- The oceans of Earth;
- At least 3 facts associated with each rainforest expanse;
- One small picture per rainforest as to the kind of animals you would expect to find there;
- At least 3 countries (and their locations) which are directly associated with each rainforest.

All of this can be done on the sheet provided and you are encouraged to use other sources of information other than just the document attached. Good luck!

> Challenge! Can you add a FUN FACT about each rainforest using additional sources of information? Present these in a colourful box so that they are clearly distinguishable.

Rainforest

- The Amazon rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest in the world, covering over five and a half a million square kilometres (1.4 billion acres).
- Over half of the Amazon rainforest is located in Brazil but it is also located in other South American countries including Peru, Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Guyana, Bolivia, Suriname and French Guiana.
- 10% of the world's known species live in the Amazon rainforest.
- 20% of the world's bird species live in the Amazon rainforest.
- It is home to around 2 and a half million different insect species as well as over 40000 plant species.
- There are also a number of dangerous species living in the Amazon rainforest such as the cougar, jaguar and anaconda.
- While the protection of the Amazon rainforest remains an issue, deforestation rates have been reducing while areas of conserved land have been increasing over the last 10 years.
- In both 2005 and 2010 the Amazon rainforest suffered severe droughts that killed off large amounts of vegetation in the worst affected areas.
- A recent study by climate change experts suggests that a 3 °C rise in world temperatures by the year 2010 would destroy around 75% of the Amazon.

African Rainforest

- The African rainforests are home to an abundance of animal and plant life.
- Out of all the Africa landforms this one is by far the most teeming with life.
- Rainforest are forests characterized by high rainfall. African rainforest can be found spread across east, central, and west Africa and cover over 2.2 million square miles (3.6 million square kilometres). However, this area is shrinking at an alarming rate.
- Approximately three quarters of Africa's rainforest are located in central Africa.
- Compared to other rainforest throughout the world the rainforests in Africa are dry. They receive between 63 and 78 inches (1600 and 2000 mm) of rainfall per year compared to the Amazon's average rainfall of eighty inches (2032 mm).
- The African Countries that have Rainforests are Cameroon, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria.
- It is one of the world's most threatened ecosystems. Every second an area of rainforest the size of a football field is being destroyed.

South East Asian Rainforests

- Most tropical rainforest in Asia is found in Indonesia (on scattered islands), the Malay peninsula (Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar), and Laos and Cambodia.
- Forest once covered a much greater area in Asia, but logging and clearing of forests for agriculture has destroyed much of the region's rainforests.
- The loss of rainforests has caused many problems in Asia. For example, during the 2004 tsunami disaster damage was worse in areas that had suffered heavy deforestation. The burning of forests for land clearing also causes air pollution.
- Southeast Asia's rainforests are some of the oldest on Earth. Some scientists believe that forests in present day Malaysia may have existed over 100 million years ago.
- Some southeast Asian forests are known for their orang-utans and elephants.