

Dear Year 5!

Please find below a range of writing activities based on Rainforests. Following the instructions on each slide, complete these either in your home learning books or on google docs.

If you have any questions or are unsure about any part - send me a message!

I look forward to reading your writing - as always 😊



Task 1: Match the words below to the correct definition

_____ : It is hot and humid; very little grows here. There's less than 2% sunlight and I'm covered in a thin layer of fallen leaves which rot away quickly.

_____ : It is dark here; only insect, frogs and snakes live here amongst the few plants that don't need much sunlight.

_____ : It is extremely high up here; almost 30m off the ground! Here most trees stop growing and up to 90% of rainforest creatures live here because it is sunny and rich in fruit and seeds.

_____ : This is where the enormous trees thrust themselves above the dense canopy.

_____ : I am the word to describe a degree of heat.

_____ : I am the action of clearing a wide area of trees.

_____ : Able to be maintained at a certain rate or level.

_____ : I am the weather conditions prevailing in an area in general or over a long period.

_____ : I am the number of different species.

_____ : I am led by large companies who need to produce food and produce on a large scale for the wider world.

Biodiversity

Temperature

emergent layer

Climate

Deforestation

Canopy

Understory

Commercial farming

Sustainable

Forest floor

Task 2: Vocabulary challenge

Use as many words as you can from the vocabulary challenge to write a short section about the tropical rainforests.

For example:

Tropical rainforests are made up of distinct layers: **forest floor**, **understory**, **canopy** and **emergent**. Without a doubt, these tropical rainforests are as stunning as they are necessary for life however, as a species we are damaging these wonderful habitats through **commercial farming**.



Task 3: Spelling Challenge!

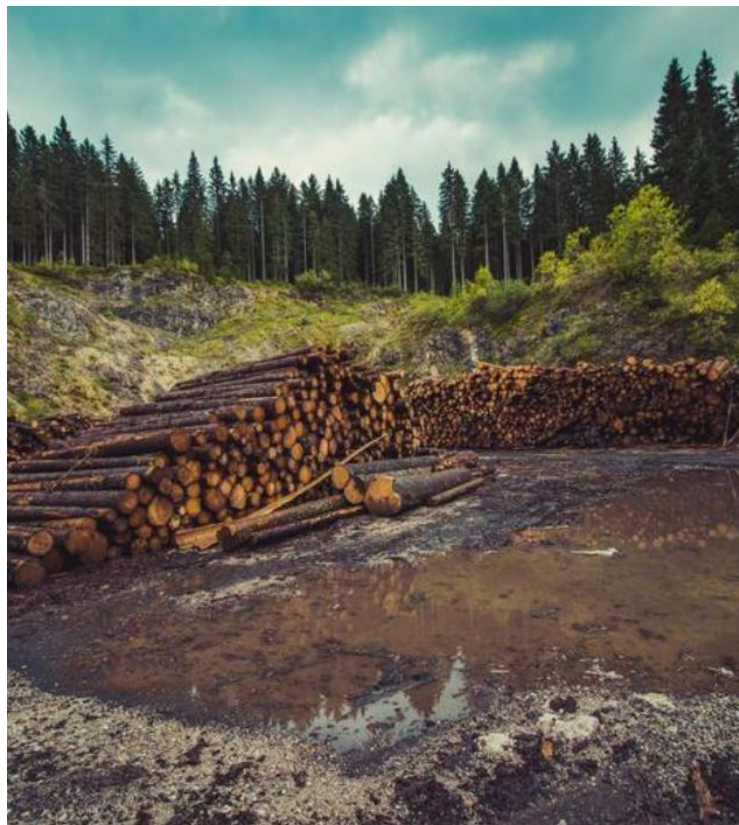
Look at the options below... which words have been spelt correctly?

1. dowl • doubt • dowl
2. solem • solum • solemn
3. knife • nife • knyfe
4. noll • knot • knoll
5. clymb • climb • clime
6. noleje • knowlledge • knowledge
7. sutle • subtle • subbtal
8. knuckle • nukkal • knuckel
9. glistan • glissen • glisten
10. fasten • fassen • fastan
11. lissen • listen • lissan
12. resse • wrestle • wressle

Include as many words as you can from the spelling list to make sentences about the image.

For example:

Each blade sliced through the trees like a **knife** through butter, one by one, felling the trees until they were nothing but a pile of dead logs.



Task 4: Using semi-colons in lists

Punctuation challenge

A semi-colon can be used to separate items in a list.

For example:

Rainforests cover only 6% of the Earth but they are home to 50% of all plant and animal species. In just four square miles of a tropical rainforest, you might come across: 1500 types of amazing plants to explore; 400 species of birds to watch; 750 species of trees to admire; 150 species of butterflies to smile at and much much more!

Looking at the picture below- write a sentence by using a semi-colon to separate items in a list.



Task 5: To write a balanced argument about deforestation

Should deforestation be stopped completely?

Write a balanced argument, discussing both sides to the above question.

Information you may need to consider in your argument:

- Approximately 30% of the Earth is covered by trees.
- Rainforests cover only 6% of the Earth but they are home to 50% of all plant and animal species. In just four square miles you might find: 1500 flowering plants, 400 species of birds, 150 species of butterflies and 750 species of trees.
- Rainforests get their name from the heavy rains that fall almost every day. Trees soak up the water and help prevent erosion. Without them the soil would wash away.
- Rainforests are often known as the 'lungs of the Earth'. The trees absorb harmful carbon dioxide and produce 20% of the oxygen in Earth's atmosphere.
- Deforestation occurs when trees are cut down across a wide area which is then permanently cleared for another use.
- Every 20 minutes, an area of rainforest the size of 20 football pitches is cut down. If this rate continues, there will be no rainforests in 100 years.
- Trees are useful and valuable. Among other things, they are used for paper, building and firewood.
- The rainforest is home to a unique variety of tree species. Hardwoods such as teak or mahogany are strong and so are perfect for building and for making furniture. However, these trees are slow growing and are not easy to replace.
- There are over 7 billion people on the planet. This number keeps growing.
- By 2100, there could be 11.2 billion people! All of these people need food so land is cleared for farming.
- Known as slash and burn, families cut down small parts of the forest and burn it to improve the soil and make room for cattle.
- It is small scale and the forest can regenerate. But with more people taking more land, this chance of recovery is slower. Up to 48% of all deforestation is caused by subsistence farming.
- Commercial Farming - This is farming that happens on a large scale. It is led by companies who need to produce on a much bigger scale to provide food and products for the wider world.
- Tree roots help hold the soil and prevent it being washed away. Without trees, the soil is washed into rivers and streams, blocking them, causing flooding and contaminated drinking water.
- Climate change: Scientists believe deforestation has a worldwide effect on climate. Trees store carbon dioxide. When they are cut down, carbon dioxide builds up in the atmosphere and is known as a greenhouse gas which causes global warming.

- Droughts: Trees are an important part of the water cycle. Without them, there will be a lack of rain.
- Habitat loss: Animals and plants lose their home so some may become endangered or extinct.

Steps for Success

Use powerful and subject specific vocabulary.	
Use a variety of conjunctions and sentence openers that aids cohesion.	
Punctuate every sentence accurately.	
Paragraph.	