Year 4 - Summer Term - Amazing Amazon

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Rainforest	An area of tall, mostly evergreen trees and a high amount of rain-fall.
Deforestation	The cutting down of trees in a large area or the destruction of forests by people.
Emergent	The top layer of a rainforest
Latitude	A distance north or south of the equator
Longitude	A distance east or west of the equator.

Unit Question:

How does the weather and climate in the Amazon compare to that of the UK?







Key Facts
The Amazon is the world's largest rainforest and the largest river basin on the planet.
Of plant species found in this region, 75% are unique to the Amazon, and there are 3,000 species of fish, the largest number of freshwater fish species in the world.
20% of the Amazon biome has already been lost and the trend will worsen if gone unchecked.
The Amazon rainforest spans 9 countries.

Causes of deforestation



Conversion for other land use: including plantations, pastures, settlements, roads and infrastructure.

Climate change: including forest fires and harming bio-diversity.

Illegal and unsustainable logging: this destroys nature, wildlife and habitats. It also takes away community livelihoods.

Mining: mining for natural resources and the mining infrastructure that has to be put in place.

Fuelwood harvesting: overharvesting domestic and commercial charcoal.