



# Geography

## Rainforests



# The Amazon

twinkl

# Aim

- I can compare the Amazon Rainforest and Sherwood Forest.

# Success Criteria

- I can tell you some similarities between the Amazon Rainforest and Sherwood Forest.
- I can tell you some differences between the Amazon Rainforest and Sherwood Forest.

# Types of Forests



There are four main types of forests around the world:



# Types of Forests



Which kinds of forest do we find in the UK? Which ones are not found in the UK?



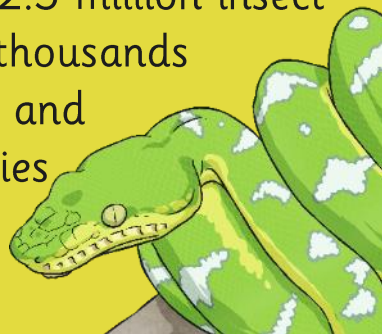
# The Amazon Rainforest



The Amazon is 5,500,000 square kilometres of rainforest, with parts in Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.

It previously covered a much larger area and was densely populated.

Home to about 2.5 million insect species, tens of thousands of plant species, and over 2,000 species of birds and mammals.



Around 2 million tourists visit each year.

Watch [this video](#) showing scenes and sounds from the Amazon Rainforest.



# Sherwood Forest



Sherwood forest is 4.23 square kilometres of forest in Nottinghamshire, UK. It previously covered a much larger area, including some of Derbyshire. Its now designated a Special Area of Conservation and is a Country park run by Nottinghamshire County Council. The River Idle passes through it, before joining the River Trent. Sherwood Forest attracts over 500,000 visitors every year.

Home to the Major Oak, a tree between 800 and 1000 years old and thought to be Robin Hood's hideout.

[This video](#) shows you Clumber Park (part of Sherwood Forest) from the air.



# Comparing Forests



## The Amazon Rainforest

**Where is It?**  
The Amazon rainforest is located in South America and covers 5.5 million square kilometres of land across nine countries. Brazil has 60%, Peru has 13%, and Colombia has 10%, while other countries have very small parts of the rainforest within their borders.  
The Amazon River flows through the Amazon rainforest.

**How Old is It?**  
The Amazon rainforest has existed for at least 55 million years.

**Why is it Important?**  
The Amazon rainforest is home to lots of plants and animals, many of which are not found elsewhere in the world. There are over 40 000 different plant species and approximately 25 million insect species in the Amazon rainforest. The Amazon rainforest is also referred to as the 'Lungs of the Planet' because it produces more than 20% of the world's oxygen. There are approximately 3000 fruits that grow in the rainforest that are edible.  
Many plants around the world have medicinal qualities. Of the plants known to have anticancer properties, 70% are found in the rainforest. Amazon natives use rainforest plants regularly but 90% of the ones they use have not been studied by modern science.

**Who Lives There?**  
In the year 1500 there were between 6 and 9 million Amazon natives. Today there are only an estimated 250 000 left. There are approximately 170 different languages spoken by the Amazon natives.  
It is believed that there may still be as many as 50 Amazon native tribes living in the rainforest that have never been in contact with the rest of the world.

## Sherwood Forest

was a former royal hunting forest in Nottinghamshire, UK. Today it covers 150 square kilometres. It used to be much bigger – it covered parts of Derbyshire and Lincolnshire up to the Domesday Book of 1086.  
Robin Hood, Maid Marian and Friar Tuck are said to have lived in Sherwood Forest before joining the Merry Men.  
The forest has existed for at least 12 million years.  
**Why is it Important?**  
It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, a National Nature Reserve and a Conservation Area. It is made up of areas of old woodland pasture and low trees such as oak, silver birch, rowan, holly and hawthorn. It is also a site for ancient oaks, invertebrates and fungi, as well as being listed as a National Nature Reserve.  
Over 300 oak trees in the forest and most are over 300 years old. Most are ancient oaks, which, according to local folklore, was Robin Hood's hideout.  
Over 800 and 3000 years old. Over 1000 spider and beetle species have been found here, and over 200 types of fungi have been recorded. Many of these have been spotted in the area, and the heathland provides a good ground for lots of birds.  
Archaeologists found evidence of a 'hanging site' – an important Domesday site where people came to resolve disputes and settle issues. Experts believe it was used in the boundary of the ancient Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of Mercia and East Angles.  
There are a few thousand people living in the forest area, mostly in small villages. The forest is much smaller, and only a few villages are still considered to be in the forest. Around 500 000 people visit Sherwood Forest every year for the day of the Robin Hood festival in the forest area.

## Comparing Forests

Use the information from the Forest fact sheets to compare the two forests.

	Sherwood Forest	Amazon rainforest
Location		
Age		
Size		
Rivers (5) passing through it		
Plants found there		
Animals found there		
Inhabitants		
Famous for...		

What do the two forests have in common?

How are they different?

How are Sherwood Forest and the Amazon Rainforest similar?

How are they different?

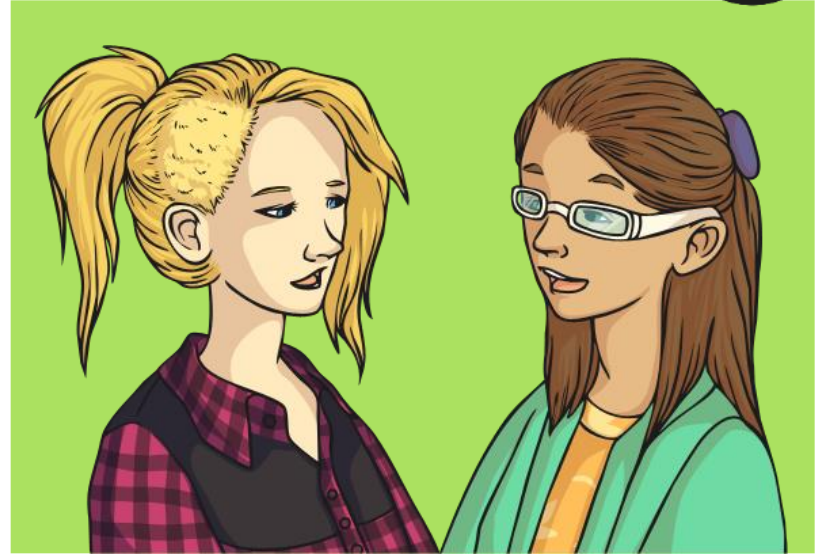
# Comparing Forests



Look at your work. What things did you notice that the two forests have in common?

Do you think all forests would have these features?

Explain to a partner which features you think all forests would have.



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