

# Intrepid Explorers

knowledge organiser

## UNIT OVERVIEW

In this unit, children find out about the Amazon region of South America, considering what it is like to live in the region as well as how it is being damaged and how it can be protected. They will also:

- extend their knowledge and understanding beyond their local area to include South America
- develop their use of geographical knowledge to enhance their place knowledge
- locate the world's countries using maps, and concentrate on environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities
- understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region in South America
- Describe and understand key aspects of physical and human geography
- Use maps, atlases and globes to locate countries

## KEY VOCABULARY

Continent, country, region, river, river basin, source, mouth, longitude, latitude, weather, climate, seasons, forest, rainforest, human and physical features, city, state, rainforest, settlement, tribe, indigenous, shifting cultivation, agriculture, fertile, nomad/nomadic



The Amazon River is the largest river by discharge of water in the world, greater than the next seven largest rivers combined!

It is the second longest river in the world, after The Nile and has the largest drainage basin in the world accounting for approximately one-fifth of the world's total river flow.

The Amazon is a vast region that spans across nine countries: Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.

The Amazon River Basin is home to the largest rainforest in the world and covers almost 40% of South America.

Amazon has a tropical climate. There are only two seasons: wet and dry.

The Amazon represents over half of the planet's remaining rainforests and has an estimated 390 billion individual trees divided into 16,000 species.

The Amazon is home to an estimated 10% of all species found on earth. Scientists estimate that there are at least 40,000 plant species, 427 mammals, 1300 birds, 378 reptiles, more than 400 amphibians and around 3000 freshwater fish.

The Amazon is also home to more than 30 million people and about 9% is still made up of indigenous people - 350 different ethnic groups, more than 60 of which still remain largely isolated.

