



## The Living World: Rainforests and Deserts

How does this unit link to prior learning?		
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Map skills and Impossible Geography (Rainforests)	Africa (Climate Zones)	Russia (Biomes)
<b>What will you be learning about?</b>		
In this unit you will explore the different ecosystems around the world and how they exist on a variety of scales. You will focus on rainforests and their adaptations, the reasons for deforestation and how people are trying to manage rainforests sustainably. You will look at Malaysia as a case study example. You will then explore hot deserts, how animals and plants are adapted, how people live and work in the Thar Desert, why desertification is taking place and how people are adapting to growing desert ecosystems.		
<b>Key Focus</b>		
You will explore two different biomes in detail looking at how people, plants and animals have adapted to survive in the environments. You will discover how people are working to manage and look after the natural environment. Each lesson will start with knowledge retrieval, which will cover the knowledge, understanding and skills you have developed in previous lessons.		
<b>We will develop our learning by studying the following sequence of lessons:</b>		
<b>1. Introduction to Ecosystems – Awe and Wonder</b>  You will look at what ecosystems are, how they are on a range of scales and then look more locally at a small-scale ecosystem example of a small pond. Pond dipping in the Spinney.  <b>2. Ecosystem Distribution</b>  You will start to map different ecosystems and look more specifically at where the rainforests, deserts and tundra biomes are located. You will explore reasons why biomes are found where they are around the world.  <b>3. Tropical Rainforests</b>  You will start to focus on one of the large ecosystems and be able to explore how life in the rainforest has adapted in order to survive. You will explore how plants and animals are adapted to survive.  <b>4. Malaysian Rainforest Case Study</b>  You will continue to develop your knowledge on rainforests by finding out why deforestation is taking place in Malaysia and explore the techniques to manage this destruction.  <b>5. Interim Assessment</b>  You will be assessed on the first part of the unit and any gaps or misconceptions will be addressed.  <b>6. Hot Deserts</b>  You will now move on to your next ecosystem and start to look at the location of hot deserts and the specific characteristics of hot deserts.	<b>7. Desert Adaptations</b>  You will look at how plants and animals have adapted to survive the harsh conditions of a desert.  <b>8. Thar Desert</b>  You will be able to compare the opportunities of living and working in a desert ecosystem versus the challenges that this will bring.  <b>9. End of Unit Assessment</b>  You will be assessed on everything you have learnt through this unit and some elements of Year 8 and then close any gaps on misunderstandings.  <b>10. Desertification</b>  You will investigate the human and natural causes of desertification and be able to justify which of these you think is causing desertification to happen.  <b>11. Managing Desertification</b>  Your final lesson will see you looking at what is being done to try and prevent desertification happening any more.  <b>12. Closing The Gap</b>  You will Close The Gap on any misunderstandings from your cumulative assessment.	
<b>How will this unit help you in the future?</b>		
<b>Year 10</b>  The skills you develop in explaining how humans interact with their physical environment will help you explore coastal and river management in Physical Landscapes of the UK.	<b>After Lode Heath</b>  This unit means you will better understand how to manage and protect the world’s natural environments. You will be better educated to make sustainable decisions about your resource usage.	
<b>Key Vocabulary</b>		
Biome   Distribution   Adaptation   Canopy   Climate   Mineral Extraction   Logging   Timber   Afforestation		
Conservation   Desertification   Scarcity   Deforestation		