





Subject Specific Vocabulary	
South America	One of the 7 world continents – found in the southern hemisphere.
Amazonia	The area within the Amazon Rainforest and around the Amazon River.
climate	The general weather conditions in an area over a long period of time.
rainfall	How much rain falls in an area.
rainforest	A dense forest found in tropical areas with high levels of rainfall.
river	A natural stream of water which flows in a channel to the sea or a lake.
oxygen	A colourless gas that we breathe and need for life.
forest floor	The bottom layer of the rainforest which receives small amounts of light.
understory layer	The layer found above the forest floor and under the main canopy.
canopy layer	The layer above the understory and below the emergent layer.
emergent layer	The highest layer of the rainforest, found above the canopy.
indigenous	Meaning something is naturally from that place.
tribe	A group of people who live in a traditional way.
tributary	A smaller stream or river which feeds into a larger river.
confluence	The point where two rivers (of near equal size) meet and join.
meander	The winding curve or bend of a river.
estuary	The mouth of a river – where it meets the sea.
erosion	The process of being worn away by water or wind.
deposition	The process of depositing something – leaving it behind.
deforestation	The cutting down of a large area of trees by humans.

Key concepts, facts and sticky knowledge
What is the Amazon River? The Amazon River is the second longest river in the world but carries the largest volume of water to the sea. The source of the river is located in Peru, in the Andes mountains – there are three smaller rivers which come together to create the Amazon. The Amazon has a large number of tributaries which spread through the rainforest but the main course of the river runs through Peru and Brazil. The mouth of the river is in the east of the continent and feeds into the Atlantic Ocean.
Where is the Amazon? Both the Amazon River and the Amazon Rainforest are located in South America. South America is one of the 7 continents of the world and is located in the southern hemisphere. The Amazon Rainforest can be found in the north of the continent.
What is it like in the Amazon Rainforest? The Amazon Rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest in the world and it is responsible for producing 40% of the oxygen in the world. The rainforest is located mostly in Brazil but also in parts of Peru, Equador and Bolivia. There are only a small number of cities found in the rainforest and many tribes live there.
Who lives in the Amazon? The Amazon is home to many plants and animals but also people. There are a small number of towns and cities: Manaus is the most major city in the rainforest and is known as ‘the heart of the Amazon’. The rainforest is also home to a large number of indigenous tribes who still follow a traditional way of life: the largest is the Yanomami.
By the end of this period of learning, the pupils should be able to describe the features of the Amazon, describe the layers of a rainforest, describe the way of life for tribes who live in the rainforest and use geographical language to describe people and places.

Significant People and Places			
			
Andes	Amazon Rainforest	Amazon River	Brazil
A mountain range which runs along the western side of South America. The second highest peak is found here as well as the three sources of the Amazon River.	The largest tropical rainforest in the world, producing 40% of the oxygen. The majority is located in Brazil and one in ten known species of animal lives there.	The second longest river in the world (after the Nile) but the largest in terms of the water it carries to the sea. The river flows through the rainforest and has many different tributaries.	The largest country in South America and where most of the Amazon Rainforest is found. The capital city of Brazil is Brasilia and the main language is Portuguese.