
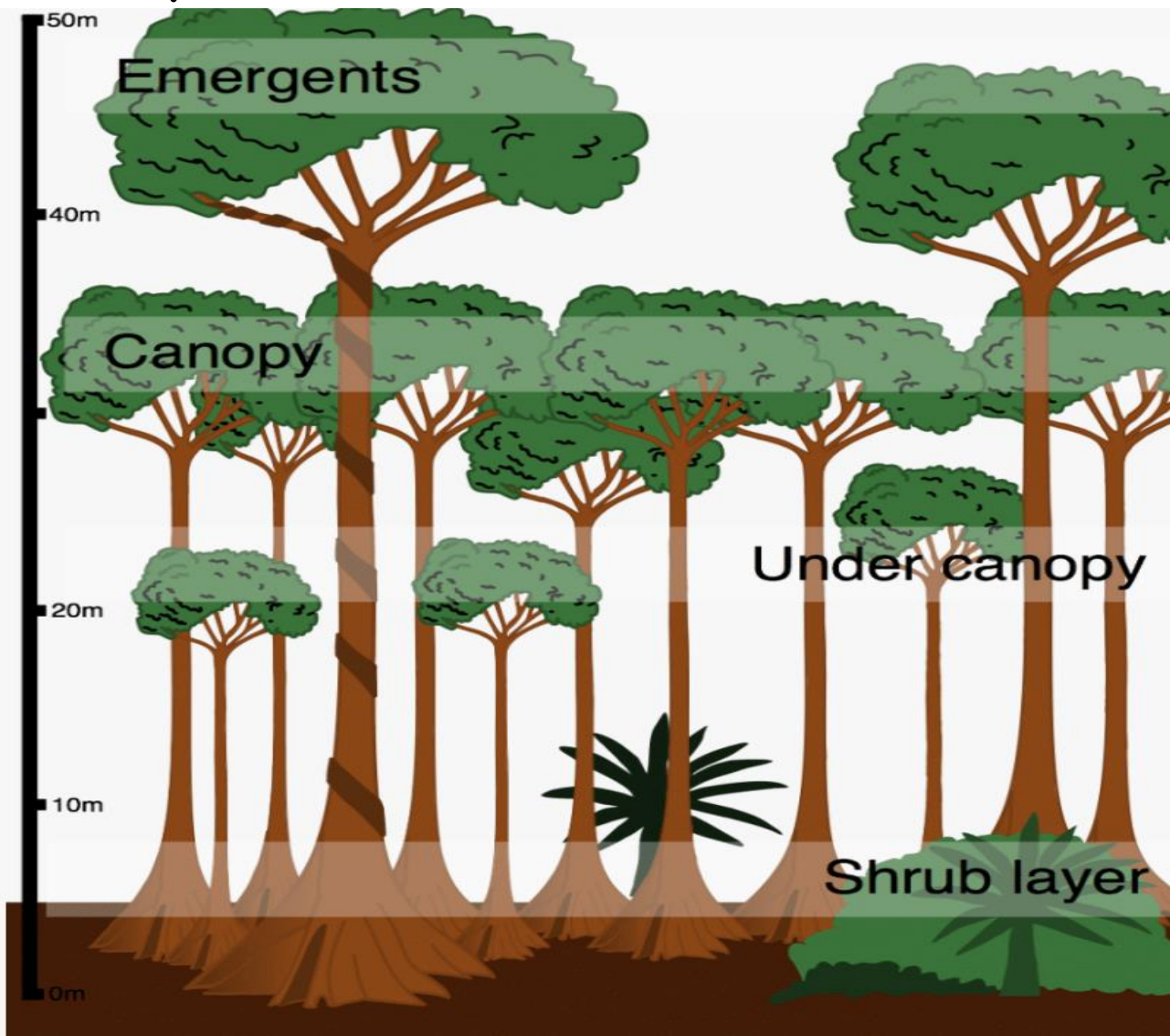


Rainforest Biome Knowledge Organiser

 Quick summary	What are biomes? Biomes are large areas, or ecosystems, of the earth that have similar weather, climates, landscapes, animals and plants. For organisms to survive in a biome they must be able to adapt and cope with how wet or dry it is; how hot or cold it is; how fertile the soil is and how flat or hilly the terrain is.
	Types of biome
Deserts	Hot and dry all year round. The only things that grow are cacti and small shrubs because the soil is shallow and rocky. Animals come out at dusk when it is cooler.
Mountains	Very cold and windy. The higher the mountain, the colder and windier the environment. There is less oxygen at high elevations. The animals of this biome have adapted to the cold, the lack of oxygen, and the landscape.
Oceans	The largest biome on Earth. It is home to many different sea creatures, from tiny plankton to huge whales.
Savannah	Hot all year round with a long, dry season. Only grasses and shrubs grow here but it is home to lots of different types of animals such as elephants, zebras and wildebeest.
Tundra	The coldest of all biomes with very little rain or snow. Winters are long and summers are short. Part of the soil is frozen all year round, although the top part defrosts in summer and plants such as mosses can grow.
Rainforests	Hot and wet all year round. They are home to half of all the different types of plants and animals on the planet.



Layers of the rainforest



Buttress roots	Large, wide roots that support tall trees in shallow soil that lacks nutrients
Canopy	Tall trees that usually bear fruit all year with large leaves and thick branches that create a roof to the rainforest, preventing sunlight reaching the smaller plants
Climate	Temperature, wind, humidity, snow, and rain in a place over time
Deforestation	Widespread clearing of trees, often to make way for plantations and buildings
Emergent (layer)	Tall trees that stand out above the canopy. Only the strongest trees are emergent as they have competed for the sunlight
Fertile	The soil allows plants and crops can be grown
Forest floor	Almost no plants grow here because it is dark due to the taller trees blocking out the sun so organisms decay quickly
Humid	High levels of water vapour in the atmosphere
Lianas	Woody climbing plants that hang from trees
Organisms	A living thing, such as an animal or plant.
Plantation	A large area of land where crops are grown
Precipitation	Water falling from clouds (e.g. rainfall, snow, hail)
Shrub (layer)	Mainly made out of bushes. It contains most of the rainforests orchids because the orchids use water from the forest floor
Terrain	The features of the surface of a piece of land (e.g. hilly, flat...)
Understorey	A tangle of shrubs, young trees, saplings, palms and vines. It is hot and damp here and the air is very still
Weather	Day-to-day temperature, precipitation and wind



			
Amazon Rainforest, South America		Congo River Basin Rainforest, Africa	
			
Southeast Asian Rainforest, Asia		Daintree Rainforest, Australasia	



Location

