## Class 3 – Summer 1 – Amazon Basin

## What will we be learning?

• Where is Brazil? An identification of the human and physical features

• To explore the Brazilian climate.

• Research urbanisation and how this affects the Amazon.

• A city of two halves: Concentrate on key physical and human characteristics and differences of the city Rio de Janeiro.

• Learn about the indigenous people of the Amazon rainforest.

• Explore what life is like in Brazil.

**Key Information** The Amazon is the world's largest tropical rainforest. Covering over 5.5 million square kilometres.

The Amazon is in South America, spanning across many countries including Brazil, Bolivia and Peru.

The Amazon Basin is in the equatorial region which is hot and humid all year. Running through the north of the rainforest is

the Amazon River. The Amazon has an incredibly rich ecosystem – there are around 40,000 plant species, 1,300 bird species, 3,000 types of fish, 430 mammals and 2.5 million different insects. This area of immense natural beauty plays an important role in limiting climate change. **Deforestation** is one of the major issues effecting The Amazon Rainforest. There are many descendants of **indigenous** people living in and around the Amazon Basin. One group of people are the caboclos, who mainly work as rubber-tappers, fishermen and small farmers near the rivers' margins.

## Key vocabulary

- Biome A large naturally occurring community of flora and fauna in a major habitat, such as a rainforest, desert, or tundra.
- Climate zone: Areas around the Earth with distinct climates.
- Ecosystem: A community or group of living things that live in, and interact with, each other in a specific environment.
- Vegetation belts: Regions of the world that are home to certain plant species determined by the climate.
- Natural resources: Materials from the Earth that are used to support life and meet people's needs.
- Indigenous: Something that is produced, growing, living, or occurring natively or naturally in a region
- Amazon Basin: The part of South America drained by the Amazon River.
- Deforestation: When forests are destroyed by cutting trees (logging) and are not replanted.
- Sustainable development: Meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Climate: Change A change in global climate patterns. Caused by the increased levels of carbon dioxide produced by fossil fuels.

1. Label the missing words on this diagram.







What I have learnt.

