

Year 4: Literacy Week 2 Day 1

LI: To use research to understand the impact of deforestation.

I can gain information from different sources.

I can use a dictionary to define key vocabulary.

I can include factual information when answering questions.



Your task:

Today you will need to improve your knowledge and understanding of deforestation by conducting research. Whilst reading 'The Great Kapok Tree' you should have noticed the main dilemma in the story. A man has entered the Amazon Rainforest and is about to chop down the Kapok tree. This is not surprising, as rainforests all over the world are being cut down to make space or to retrieve natural resources.

Task 1: Watch the two videos attached and make notes using bullet points

Task 2: Read the article and then answer the questions

Remember to:

- Use the online dictionary to define words you are unsure of
- Take notes when watching the videos and reading the article
- Answer the questions in full sentences whilst including factual information
- Proof read your answers aloud for grammar and punctuation
- Share and discuss the new information you have learnt with someone at home

Links:

- <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/browse/dictionary> (online dictionary)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nYInoxgqEWo> (video)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRZKGLIc9DA> (video)
- Please see the article and questions below:

Rainforest Deforestation

Rainforests are an essential part of our planet, providing oxygen, absorbing carbon dioxide and housing 50% of the animal and plant species of the planet. Not to mention, the medicines and cures that are made using plants only found in a rainforest environment.

Deforestation

Deforestation is the name given to the destruction of the rainforests and this is being done by burning them, chopping down the trees, or in some cases, flooding the areas. This is happening so fast that an area the size of one football pitch is being destroyed every minute! If the current rate of deforestation continues, it will take less than a hundred years to destroy all the rainforests on Earth.



Fact File in Numbers

- 20% of the world's oxygen is produced in the Amazon forest.
- 28,000 species of animals are expected to become extinct in the next 25 years due to deforestation.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ of the tropical rainforests that we had have already gone.

Why are they being destroyed?

The biggest reason rainforests are cleared is to make space for food, including cattle to be farmed for cheap beef and also growing large crops, such as soya beans and palm oil. In addition, other causes of deforestation, which are also related to making money include; chopping down and using the wood from the forest, building roads for mining metals, gold or diamonds, flooding areas to make dams to generate electricity and also digging for oil.

How can they be saved?

There are plenty of charities fighting against deforestation and people can always help by raising money for those charities. Also, think about the reasons that the forests are being destroyed and how some little changes in your everyday habits could help. For example, the cheap beef farmed in the areas that used to be rainforest land is often used in fast food chains. Could you avoid eating fast food from these outlets? You could also check on your supermarket food labels for the country of origin of any meat you buy. Was it farmed in an area where deforestation is taking place? You could also use rainforest-friendly wood so you know it is not a by-product of deforestation. Finally remember, paper comes from trees so any paper saving you can do, as well as recycling, will help the environment.

Now that you have read through the information on the sheet above, answer the following questions in detail. Don't forget to refer to the text.

1. Name a reason not to destroy rainforests given in the first paragraph.

2. Name two of the three ways given that a rainforest can be destroyed.

3. What percentage of the rainforests has already gone?

4. In the fact file, what does the author say will happen in the next quarter of a century?

5. Why does saving paper help the rainforests?

[illegible]

6. What fraction of the earth's plant and animal species live in the rainforests?

7. List two main reasons why deforestation is occurring.

8. What is your opinion about deforestation? What could you do to try and help stop it?

Year 4: Literacy Week 2 Day 2

LI: To adopt a viewpoint and maintain it throughout the text

I can write in the first and second person.

I can include formal language when asking and answering questions.

I can include open ended questions

I can include factual information to support responses.



Your task:

Today, you will need to write a transcript for an interview (Question-Answer) between you and the man who has come to cut down the Kapok tree. As the journalist, you will need to ask the man several questions to understand why he has come to cut down the tree, as well as his thoughts and feelings surrounding this decision.

Try to refer to deforestation when asking questions. This will allow you to include factual information. You may want to give the man a name, or you could call him 'Sir'.

Example:

- **Q: Good afternoon Sir, I would like to start by asking you a few questions about your decision to travel to the Amazon Rainforest. Why have you decided to travel here?**
- **A: Well, life back home is quite hard. My family and I do not have much money so I need to take on as much work as possible. I was offered this job to travel deep into the tropical forest and chop down this gigantic Kapok tree.**
- **Q: Are you aware that cutting down this tree will affect many animals and other wildlife? How do you feel about this?**

Have a go at using the question matrix to enhance your response.

Ensure questions are open ended to allow you to include more information.

is/are/has/have

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Year 4: Literacy Week 2 Day 3

LI: To explore two sides to an argument.

I can include factual information.

I can use simple and complex sentences.

I can proof read my work for grammar and punctuation.



Your task:

Following your research from yesterday, you will need to complete the table below.

Include reasons for and against deforestation. There are so many reasons against deforestation.

You may also want to refer to reasons given in the story we are reading. However, you may find it difficult to find reasons for. Think back to the reasons given in the videos. Why is deforestation happening? What can people gain from this?

Key vocabulary to be included:

Resources / essentials, environment, habitats, pollution, indigenous, crops, species, opportunities

For (minimum 3) Reasons to allow deforestation to continue	Against (minimum 5) Reasons to stop deforestation

Year 4: Literacy Week 2 Day 4

LI: To plan a persuasive letter

I can use paragraphs to organise and structure ideas.

I can use a range of connectives to extend my sentence

I can include facts and key vocabulary to support points given.



Your task:

Tomorrow you will be writing a persuasive letter to the president of Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro.

You will need to persuade him to stop deforestation happening within the Amazon Rainforest.

Today you will need to plan what you will write in your letter. Use the template below to help you.

For more information, have a watch of this video: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/49435987>

You may also want to refer back to your notes and answers from Monday's lesson.

Introduction:

Why are you writing this letter to Jair Bolsonaro? Can you include any facts? (deforestation / Amazon)

Paragraph 1: For (Reasons to allow deforestation to continue)

*Use your new knowledge and notes from yesterday to write at least 3 reasons for why Jair Bolsonaro **should allow** deforestation to happen in the Amazon Rainforest.*

Paragraph 2: Against (Reasons to stop deforestation)

*Use your new knowledge and notes from yesterday to write at least 3 reasons for why Jair Bolsonaro **should stop** deforestation from happening in the Amazon Rainforest.*

Conclusion:

What's your opinion? Try to include a rhetorical question.

Year 4: Literacy Week 2 Day 5

L.I: To write a persuasive letter

I can use a range of sentence openers.

I can write using formal and persuasive language

I can organise my writing into paragraphs that follow a theme



Your task:

Today you will be writing a persuasive letter to the president of Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro.

You will need to persuade him to stop deforestation happening within the Amazon Rainforest.

Use you plan from yesterday to support you.

Remember to include:

- Reasons for and against deforestation
- Fact and key vocabulary learnt throughout the week
- Formal and persuasive language
- Adjectives and emotive language to engage the reader
- Your own opinion followed by a rhetorical question.

Don't forget to follow the structure from yesterday:

Introduction, Reasons for, Reasons against and Conclusion where you will express your opinion.

Use the sentence starters below to help vary your sentences.

Persuasive Writing

Introductions

I think...
 For this reason...
 I feel that...
 I am sure that...
 It is certain...
 I am writing to...
 Of course...
 In the same way...
 On the other hand...
 In this situation...

Making your point

Firstly, secondly,
 thirdly...
 Furthermore...
 In addition...
 Also...
 Finally...
 Likewise...
 Besides...
 Again...
 Moreover...
 Similarly...
 Surely...
 Certainly...
 Specifically...
 If...then...
 because...

Details

For example...
 In fact...
 For instance...
 As evidence...
 In support of this...
Endings
 For these reasons...
 As you can see...
 In other words...
 On the whole...
 In short...
 Without a doubt...
 In brief...
 Undoubtedly...

Other Words

reasons
 arguments
 for
 against
 unfair
 pros
 cons



Dear Jair Bolsonaro,

I am writing to you to express my concerns regarding deforestation within the Amazon Rainforest...

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