

## Y6 GEOGRAPHY KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: DOES THE AMAZON RAINFOREST NEED SAVING?

### Key Words

<b>Ecosystem</b>	A natural environment which includes the flora (plants) and fauna (animals) that live there.	<b>Rainforest</b>	A tropical forest that has high annual rainfall and is located in the tropical regions of the world.
<b>Greenhouse gases</b>	Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere absorb heat energy and prevent it escaping into space. This keeps the Earth warmer than it would be without these gases.	<b>Climate change</b>	Climate change refers to the change in the Earth's usual weather conditions over many years. It is caused by human activity like burning fossil fuels, deforestation and over-farming crops and animals
<b>GDP</b>	Gross domestic product is the total value of goods produced and services provided in a country during one year.	<b>Region</b>	An area of a country or continent defined by physical, human or cultural features.
<b>Indigenous</b>	Groups are usually described as indigenous when they maintain traditions or other aspects of an early culture that is associated with a given region.	<b>Fossil fuels</b>	Fossil fuels come from old life forms that decomposed over a long period of time. The three most important fossil fuels are coal, petroleum, and natural gas.

### Key Ideas

- ☐ The Amazon is the most extensive rainforest on the planet with an incredibly rich ecosystem that plays an important role in limiting global climate change. It is also an area rich in natural resources which means the region is undergoing huge change due to commercial development. The issue of deforestation is an international topic of discussion. It highlights the argument over whether the Brazilian people should be able to benefit from the natural resources of the Amazon versus the global environmental reasons for its protection.
- ☐ The Amazon and Rainforest is located in the continent of South America. The source of the river is in the glaciers of the Andes Mountains of Peru. It travels through five countries before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean. 60% of the Amazon river and rainforest is in Brazil.
- ☐ The Amazon basin is a tropical rainforest biome with a tropical climate due to its location on the equator.
- ☐ The Amazon river is the largest river in South America and the second longest in the world (after The Nile). The Amazon rainforest covers 2.1 million square miles. It has an incredibly rich ecosystem.
- ☐ The largest city along the Amazon River is Manaus in Brazil with over 1.7 million people living there. There is an increasing amount of commercial farming, logging and mining in the area as the Brazilian people use the rich natural resources of the Amazon. This results in deforestation which is impacting the Amazon ecosystem. As a result of this commercial activity the transport structure within the area is being developed to move goods and materials for national and international use.



