# Hot Climates

# Geography Year 2

Hot Climates: Where are the hot climates in the world and what are they like?

## Very Important Vocabulary

**Sun:** The Sun is a big star that gives Earth heat and light. Places closer to the Sun's strongest rays are usually hotter.

**Tropics:** The tropics are invisible lines around the world, above and below the equator. It is hot all year round there. Tropical places include rainforests and deserts.

**Equator:** The equator is an invisible line around the middle of the Earth. Places near the equator get the most sunshine.

**Wet:** A place is wet when it gets lots of rain. Rainforests are very wet because it rains nearly every day.

**Dry:** A place is dry when it gets little or no rain. Deserts are dry because it hardly ever rains there.

**Desert:** A desert is a very hot, dry place. It is usually hot during the day and can be cold at night. It has little water, few plants and animals.

**Temperature:** Temperature tells us how hot or cold the air is. We can measure it in degrees.

**Climate:** The usual weather in a place over a long period of time. Different places experience different climates.

**Tropical Rainforest:** A tropical rainforest is a hot, wet forest near the equator. It has tall trees, lots of rain, and many different animals and plants.

**Biodiverse:** A place is biodiverse when it has lots of different animals, plants and insects living there.

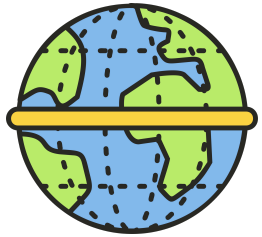
**Sahara:** The Sahara is the biggest hot desert in the world and is located in North Africa.

Rainforests are warm and rainy all year. They get over 2,000mm of rain each year and the air feels very damp, this is known as humidity. Rainforests, such as the Amazon, have lush vegetation and high biodiversity.

Deserts are extremely hot in the day but can get cold at night. Some deserts reach over 40°C in the day but drop below 10°C at night.

Plants and animals in hot places have special ways to survive. In rainforests, trees grow tall to reach sunlight. In deserts, cacti store water, and camels can go a long time without drinking.

Countries in Africa, South America, Southeast Asia and parts of Oceania are examples of regions that have hot climates.



## Location:

Hot places are often near or on the equator. This is an invisible line around the middle of the Earth, where the Sun shines strongest all year, it is also known as the tropics.

## Tropical Rainforests

Tropical rainforests are hot and wet. They are found in places like the Amazon (South America), the Congo (Africa) and Southeast Asia. These areas have lots of trees, plants and animals.

## Deserts

Deserts like the Sahara (Africa) and the Arabian Desert (Middle East) are very dry. They get little rain and have a sandy or rocky ground.