

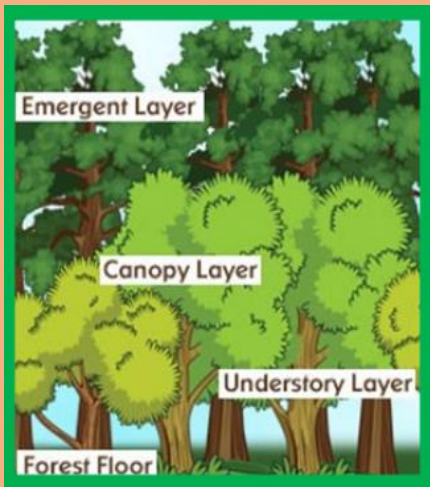


Key Concepts/Features

Cacao beans are grown in the **tropical regions** of South America. 40% of the South American continent (which includes parts of eight South American countries: Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, and Suriname) is covered in **rainforest**. The Amazon is the world's largest tropical **rainforest**, covering over 5.5 million square kilometres. It is home to around 10 million species of animal, plants and insects as well as an estimated 400-500 **indigenous** Amazonian Indian tribes.

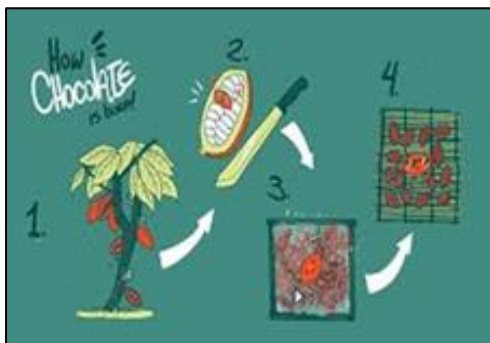
Key Concepts/Features

More than 20 percent of the world's oxygen is produced in the Amazon Rainforest, yet 200,000 acres of **rainforest** are burned every day.



Timeline

1500 - 400 BC	First recorded use of cacao beans by the Olmec Indians in Mexico.
900 - 250 BC	The ancient Maya of Mexico and central America made cacao into a spicy drink mixed with chilli.
AD 120 -1500	The Aztecs used cacao for trade and cacao seeds as a form of money.
1502	Christopher Columbus was the first European to come into contact with cacao.
1540	The Spanish brought cacao home and started flavouring it with cinnamon and sugar.
1657	The first chocolate house opened in London. Cacao was very expensive, and in France, only royalty could drink chocolate!
1830	J.S. Fry and Sons of England produced the first ever moulded bar of 'eating chocolate'.
1861	The Cadbury brothers of England introduced the first mass marketed boxes of chocolates.



Key Locations

York - York's location on the River Ouse was useful as cocoa beans flowed in to be used as far back as the 18th century. Later on, the growing rail network then transported the finished products across the nation.
Brazil - Brazil produces, on average, 350 thousand tons of cocoa per year, of which 90% is destined for exports and the remaining 10% for the Brazilian chocolate industries
Switzerland - Chocolate production began taking place in Switzerland as far back as the 17th century. Some well-known brands that originated there include Nestle, Toblerone, Lindt and Sprungli.

Key Vocabulary

climate	The weather conditions throughout the year, such as: temperature, rainfall, humidity, sunshine.
harvest	A process or time for gathering crops.
indigenous	Originating in a region/area e.g. the native tribes are from the Amazon rainforest.
industry	An area of business which produces goods or services.
plantations	An estate where crops are grown.
ripe	The time when a fruit or plant is ready to be harvested.
rainforest	a rainforest is a dense, damp forest with a huge number of different kinds of plants and animals.
trade route	A network of pathways and stoppages used for the commercial transport of goods.
tribe	A group of people united by common culture, way of life or live together as a community.
tropical region	A place where it is hot and humid.