



# Memory Geogger

What is means by the term indigenous people?

Give an example of indigenous people in a rainforest.

Explain one way indigenous people live in harmony with the rainforest?

Describe the effects of tropical rainforest deforestation on local people.



Why are epiphytes (air plants) found in the tropical rainforest and not the desert ecosystem?



# Memory Geogger

Indigenous people are those who are the original habitants (native people) in an area.

Amazonian Indians such as the Kayapo tribe.

Slash and burn - Amazonian Indians use slash and burn as a way of farming. This works in harmony with the rainforest because only small areas of forest are cleared. Burning vegetation puts nutrients into the soil. The Indians move on after 1-2 years so the rainforest recovers, as does the nutrient cycle. The forest can be used by future generations of Indians while current generations benefit.

Local people lose their land so their food supply is lost, soil erosion makes soil infertile so locals can't grow crops, in some areas the locals have been forced to live in reservations, people get jobs e.g. in mining and logging.

Epiphytes grow upon or attached to a living plant, often high up in rainforest trees where there is more light compared with lower levels.

Epiphytes use the host plant for support, but produce their own energy from photosynthesis and obtain moisture and nutrients from the air. Due to the hot, humid environment of the rainforest epiphytes thrive here. However, in the desert the air is hot and dry. The lack of moisture in the air means epiphytes would not survive. In addition to this there are a lack of trees for them to attach themselves to.