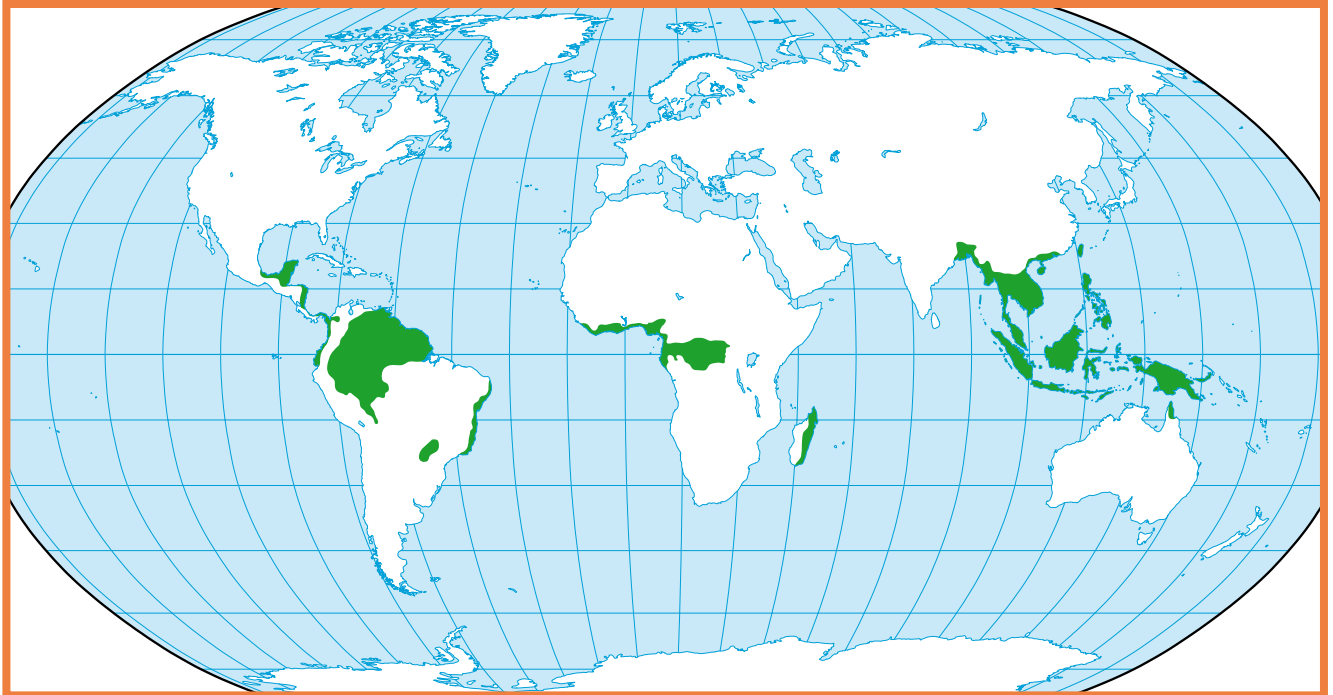




# What's So Special About Rainforests?

Found near the **equator**, rainforests are warm, extremely wet areas that have many trees. Rainforests receive 77 inches (200 centimeters) to 400 inches (1,000 centimeters) of rain annually. The average temperature in a rainforest is 90 degrees Fahrenheit (32 degrees Celsius).



 Areas that are rainforests.

*Tropical rainforests, approximately 6% of Earth's surface, grow in Central and South America, Australia, Asia, and Africa.*







# Vanishing!

Conservationists estimate that forty to fifty million acres (twenty million hectares) of rainforests are destroyed each year. Logging, mining, farming, and road construction cause most of the damage to this delicate **ecosystem**. If we humans do not change our practices, rainforests could completely vanish in less than one hundred years.



*Large, barren tracts of land are all that remain of thousands of acres in the Amazon.*



*Loggers cut down trees that are over one hundred years old and rarely plant saplings to replace the old trees.*

*Loggers stack trees that have been cut down and burn them in order to clear land for farming. →*



