

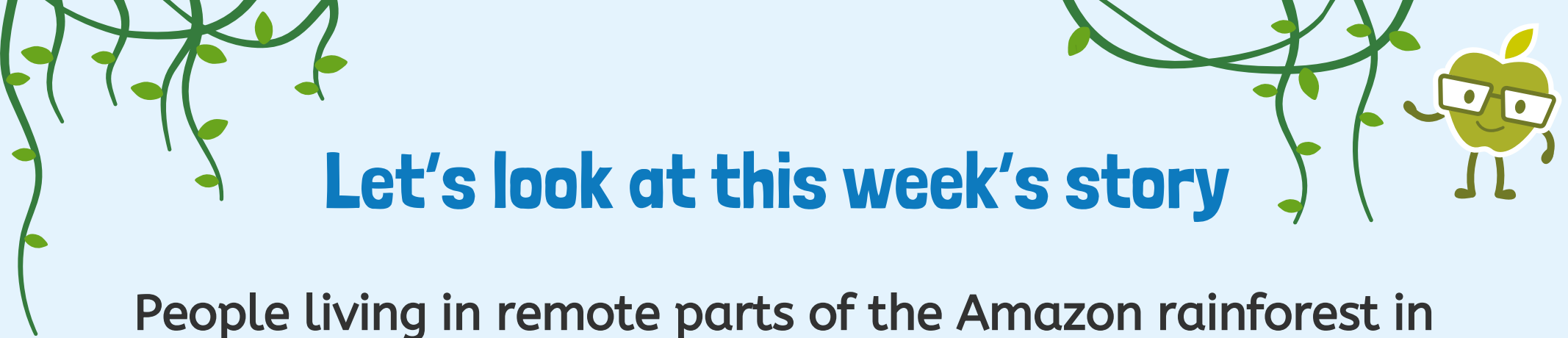
# This week's story looks at events related to ...





# How can we travel while protecting nature?





## Let's look at this week's story

People living in remote parts of the Amazon rainforest in Ecuador are using solar-powered canoes to travel along rivers. The boats use energy from the Sun instead of petrol or diesel, making journeys quieter and creating less pollution. The project is helping people travel while protecting the rainforest and has inspired other communities in the Amazon to try similar ideas.

Learn more about this week's story [here](#).  
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).  
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).





Read the information below all about the solar-powered canoes.  
What do you think are the benefits of using them?

## Solar-powered boats in the Amazon

### Where is the Amazon?

The Amazon rainforest is the world's largest tropical rainforest. It stretches across nine countries in South America, including Ecuador, Peru, and Brazil.

Millions of people, plants and animals live there, making it one of the most biodiverse places on Earth.



The Amazon rainforest and the Amazon river.

### Travelling by river

Many communities in the Amazon have very few roads. Instead, rivers act as transport links, helping people travel between settlements.

People use boats to:



Get to school



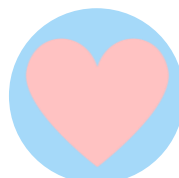
Visit hospitals



Transport food  
and supplies



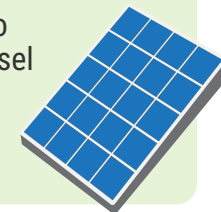
Attend community  
events



See family and friends

### How do solar-powered boats work?

Solar panels collect energy from the Sun to power the canoes, so they do not need diesel fuel. Achuar people worked with engineers to create boats that help people travel, while protecting the rainforest.



Achuar technicians demonstrating the power of electric river transport. The Achuar are an Indigenous group living in the Amazon rainforest, where they have cared for the land and rivers for many generations.

**Source:** Kara Solar.



Look at the resource below, which explores different types of energy and how they work.

## What is renewable energy?

Renewable energy is energy from things that keep coming back, like sunlight, wind and moving water.

Non-renewable energy is energy from things that can run out, like petrol, coal and gas.

## Renewable energy in action:

sunlight > solar panel > battery > motor > canoe moves

**Battery** - stores the energy so it can be used when needed



**Solar panel** - collects energy from sunlight

**Motor** - helps the canoe move

**No petrol needed** - less fumes and pollution

### Sunlight



Sunlight is renewable because the Sun shines every day (even if we can't see it). Solar panels can use sunlight to make electricity.



### Wind



Wind is renewable because moving air never runs out. Wind can turn turbines to help make electricity.

### Moving water



Moving water is renewable because rivers and water cycles keep moving. Moving water can help make electricity too.



**Have you seen any of these in action before?**



Look at the resource below, which shares some examples of how different places around the world are changing the way people travel.



### London, UK

Some roads near London schools become School Streets at busy times of day. With fewer cars nearby, it can be safer and easier for children and families to walk, cycle or scoot.

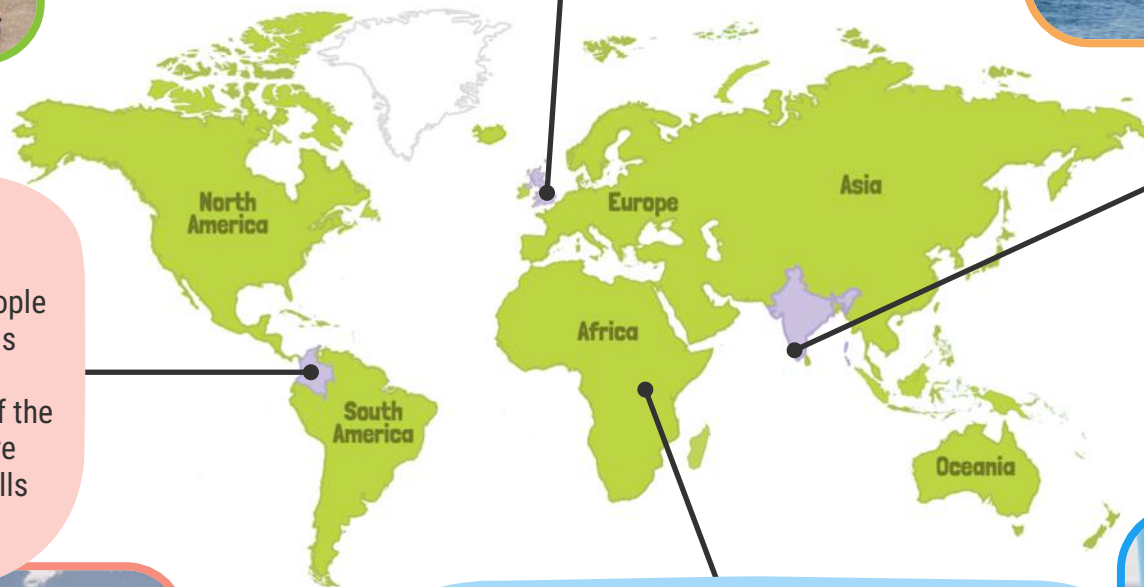


### Kochi, India

Kochi has a Water Metro, with electric boats connecting different parts of the city by water. It helps people travel across waterways while aiming to reduce road traffic and offer a more eco-friendly journey.

### Medellín, Colombia

In Medellín, cable cars help people living in hillside neighbourhoods travel into the city more easily. They are a low-emission part of the public transport system, and are useful in places where steep hills make road travel difficult.



### Kigali, Rwanda

In Kigali, motorcycle taxis are a common way for people to get around. Rwanda is working to replace petrol motorbike taxis with electric ones, helping to reduce pollution from busy road transport.



# Media Literacy

**I can identify what has been included in a story.**



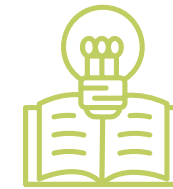
**Explanation:** Let's think about what is included in a story and how that helps us understand its meaning.



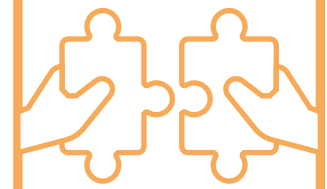
**Analyse**



**Evaluate**



**Research**



**Act**

## Questions to Discuss

- Why do we read news stories?
- What information do you think you would find in a news story?
- Why do news stories have different parts?
- What makes a news story easy to read and understand?

## Activity

Read through this week's news story. In pairs, work together to find:

- A place
- A problem or challenge
- A solution or idea
- People involved
- Any facts or numbers

**Think about:** What information helped you understand the story best? Why?

# Protected Characteristics

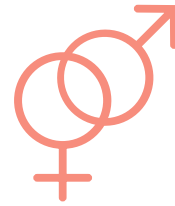


Which protected characteristic do you think this week's story highlights?



This week's story links to **race** because the solar-powered canoes help Indigenous people protect their rainforest home.

Share your thoughts. Do you agree?



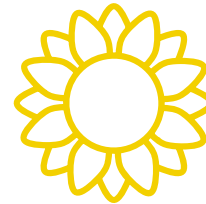
Sex



Who People Love



Age



Disability



Being Yourself



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



Religion or Belief



**I Really Do Matter!**



**Which British value do you think this week's story highlights?**



This project demonstrates **Mutual Respect and Tolerance**. Protecting the Amazon rainforest shows respect for both nature and the people who depend on the rainforest to live.

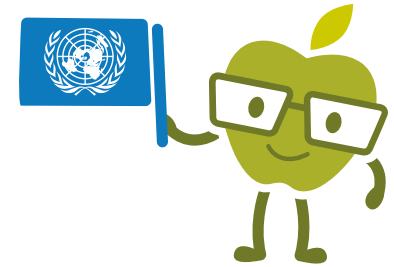
**Individual Liberty** is shown here because the solar-powered canoes give people the freedom and independence to travel when they need to.



**Do you agree with either person, or think something different?**



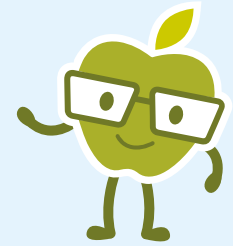
# UN Rights of the Child



Every child has the same rights. No matter who they are, where they live, or what language they speak, children should always be treated fairly.



# Reflection



Looking after nature doesn't always mean giving something up, it can mean finding a better way to do it. New ideas, combined with local knowledge, can help people and the environment thrive together.

