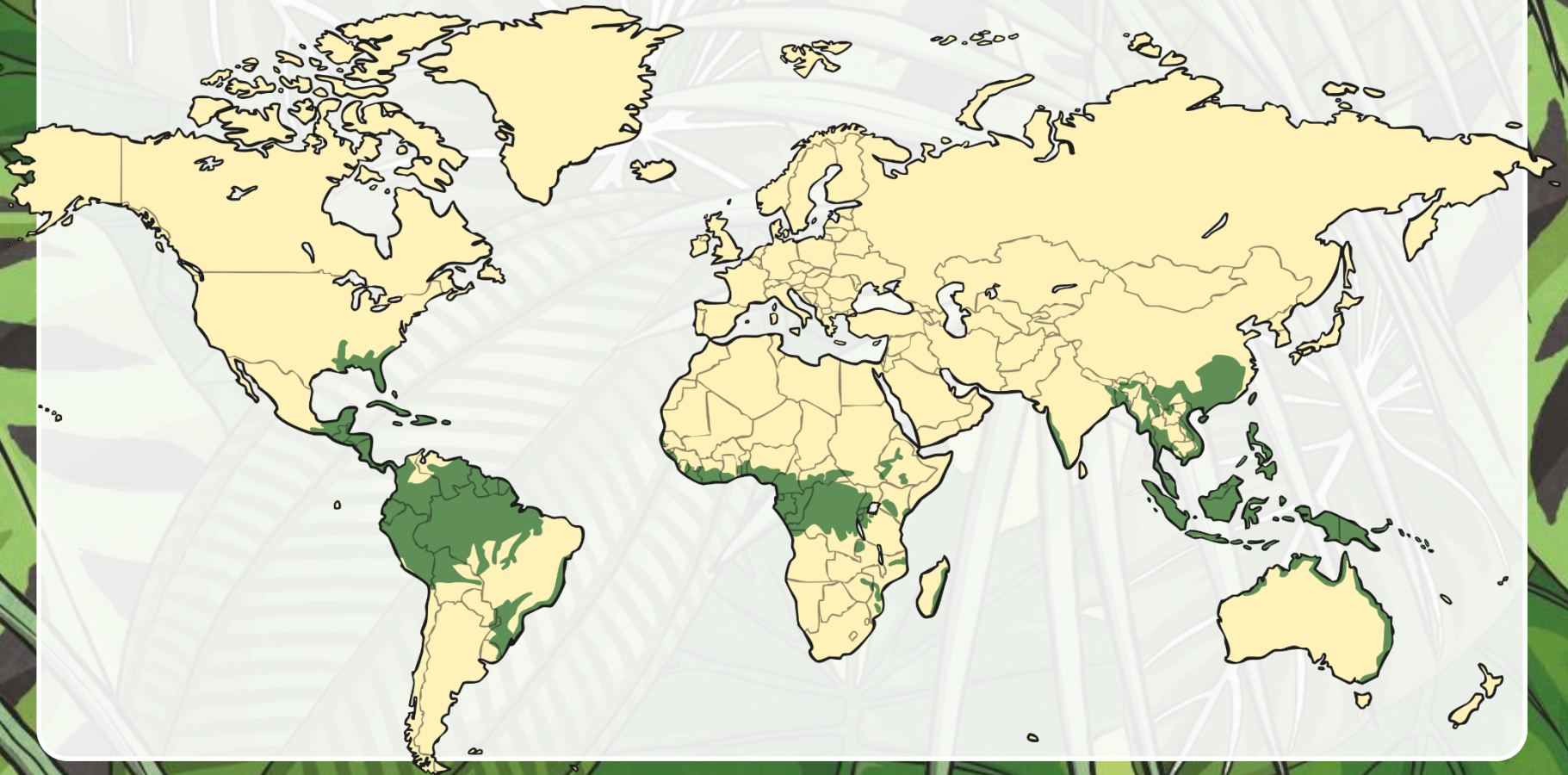


The background of the slide is a vibrant, stylized illustration of various tropical rainforest plants. It features a dense arrangement of leaves in different shades of green, from light lime to deep forest green. Some leaves have prominent veins, while others are more textured or have distinct shapes like palm fronds. The overall effect is a lush, layered jungle scene.

# Plants of Tropical Rainforests

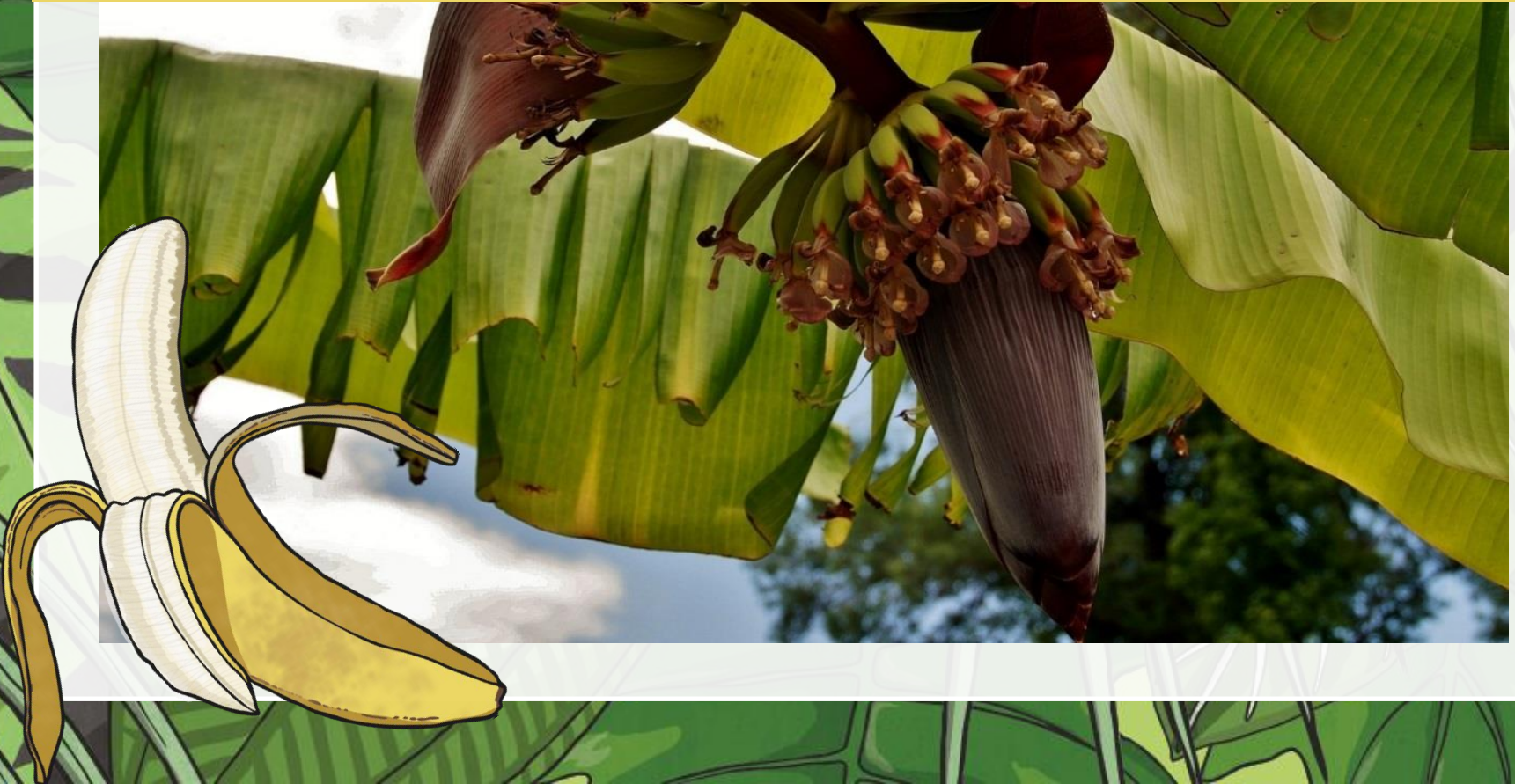
# Plants of Tropical Rainforests

Tropical rainforests cover less than 2% of the planet but are home to 50% of the plants and animal species on Earth!



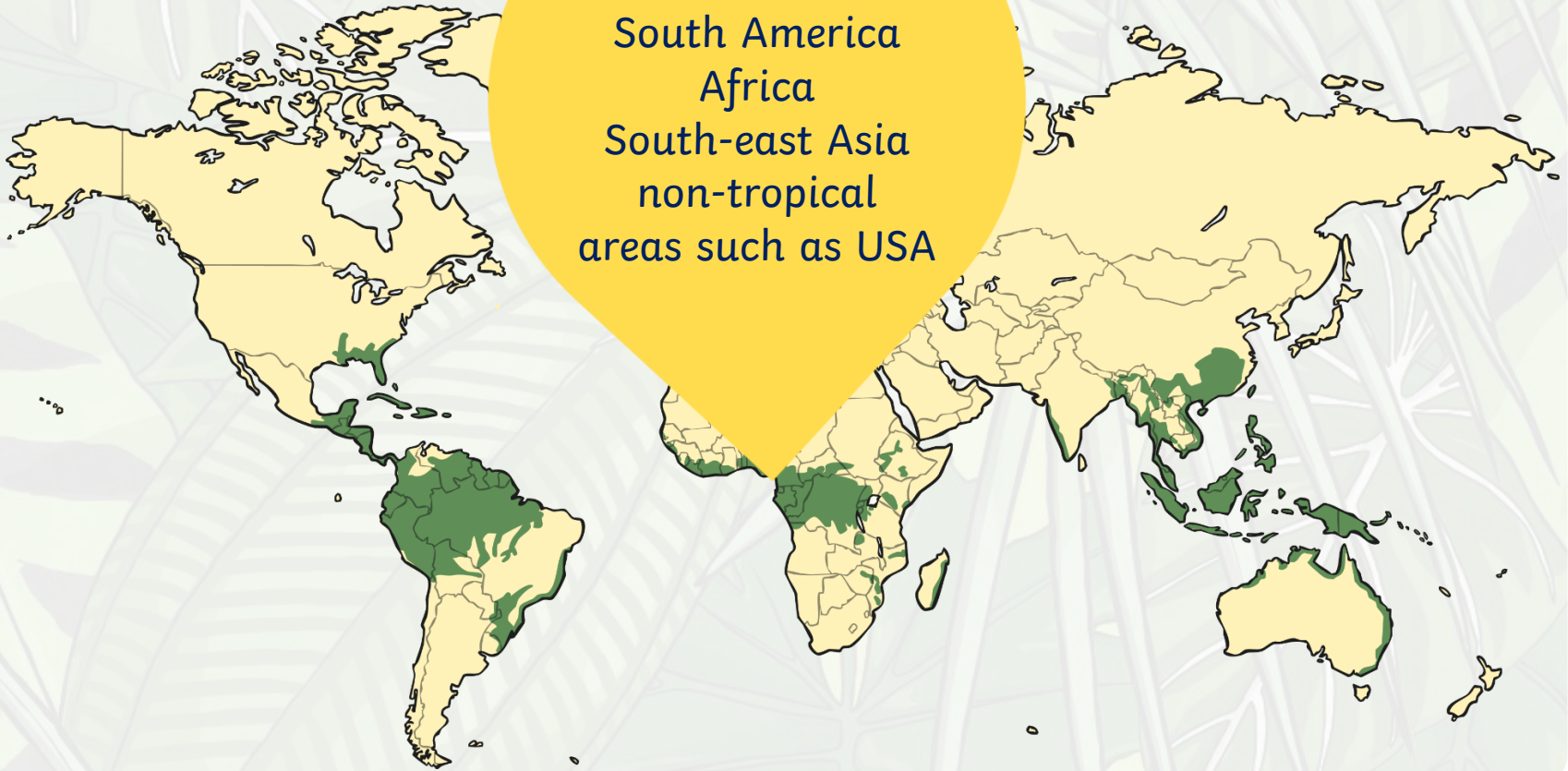
# The Banana Plant

Bananas are actually giant herbs! The trees on which they grow can get to twenty feet high.



# The Banana Plant

Where:  
Central America  
South America  
Africa  
South-east Asia  
non-tropical  
areas such as USA



# Rubber Tree

Reaching around 40m, the rubber tree produces milky-white sap called latex which is actually used to make rubber!



# Rubber Tree

Where:  
Amazon region of  
South America  
Brazil  
Venezuela  
Ecuador  
Colombia  
Peru  
Bolivia



# Heliconia



This colourful plant has 40 different species. It is also known as 'lobster claws' or 'parrot flowers'.

# Heliconia



The claw shapes are actually 'bract' which are leaves that protect the flower inside so only specific birds, such as humming birds, can get to them



# Heliconia

Where:  
The Neotropics  
Southern Mexico  
Central America  
South America  
West Indies



# Orchids

The largest family of plants in the world. They come in every colour except black.



They can grow to over 4m long!

# Orchids

**Where:**  
Most climates  
Central America  
South America  
Countries along the  
Andes Mountains.



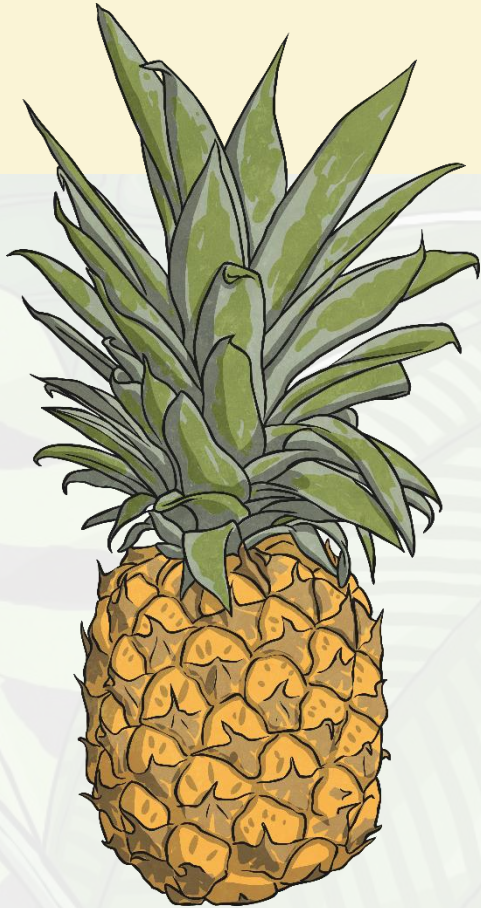
# Bromeliad

Bromeliads contain more than 2,700 species that grow on the ground, on rocks and on other plants.



# Bromeliad

However, you may recognise the spikey leaves as being the plant of the pineapple.



# Bromeliad

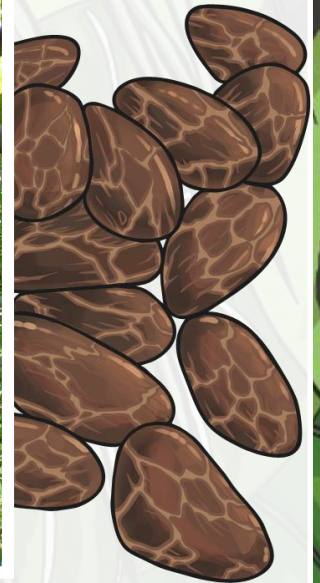
Where:

The Neotropics  
Southern Mexico  
Central America  
South America  
West Indies  
Western Africa



# Cacao

The evergreen cacao tree grows pods containing 20 to 60 reddish-brown cocoa beans.



# Cacao



It takes from 7 to 14 pods to make one pound of dry cocoa beans, which is turned into chocolate.

It's important for cacao to be harvested sustainably due to the worldwide popularity of chocolate.

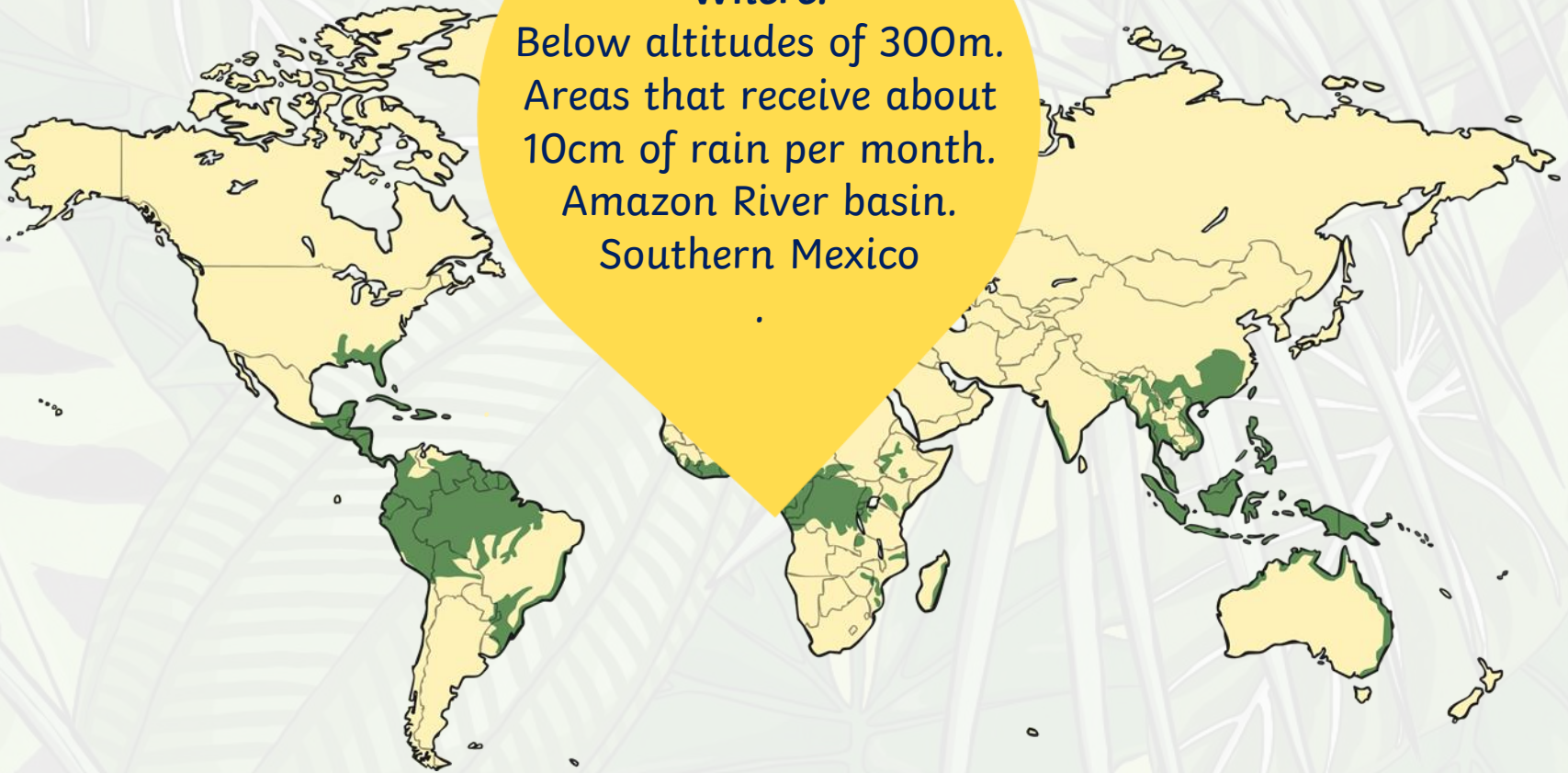




# Cacao

## Where:

Below altitudes of 300m.  
Areas that receive about  
10cm of rain per month.  
Amazon River basin.  
Southern Mexico



# Poinsettia

The poinsettia comes in red, white, pink and two colours. The coloured part looks like petals but they are in fact leaves.



They are rumoured to be poisonous but they aren't, which is good, as they are a popular Christmas plant in the UK.



# Poinsettia

Where:  
Mexico  
Central America



# Brazil Nut Tree

The brazil nut tree towers over its neighbours as it can reach 50m high. The nut is made inside the fruit the size of a tennis ball.



The outside layer of the fruit is so hard only the agoutis, a large rodent with sharp teeth, can break it open.

# Brazil Nut Tree

**Where:**  
Amazon Rainforest  
(Brazil, Colombia,  
Venezuela, Ecuador  
and Peru).



# Sapodilla

The kiwi-shaped fruit has a yellow inside that tastes like a pear. It is considered to be the best fruit in Central America. The rainforest mammals, such as howler monkeys, eat it a lot.



# Sapodilla

The bark contains a white, gummy sap called chicle. This was used by the Mayans and Aztecs to create the first chewing gum



# Sapodilla

Where:  
Southern Mexico  
North-eastern Guatemala  
Belize





# Coffee

The coffee plant is a shrub that can grow to over 9m. Each berry has 2 beans inside. They start off green until they are roasted. Coffee plants can live for 100 years!



Photo courtesy of by amstrank (@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution

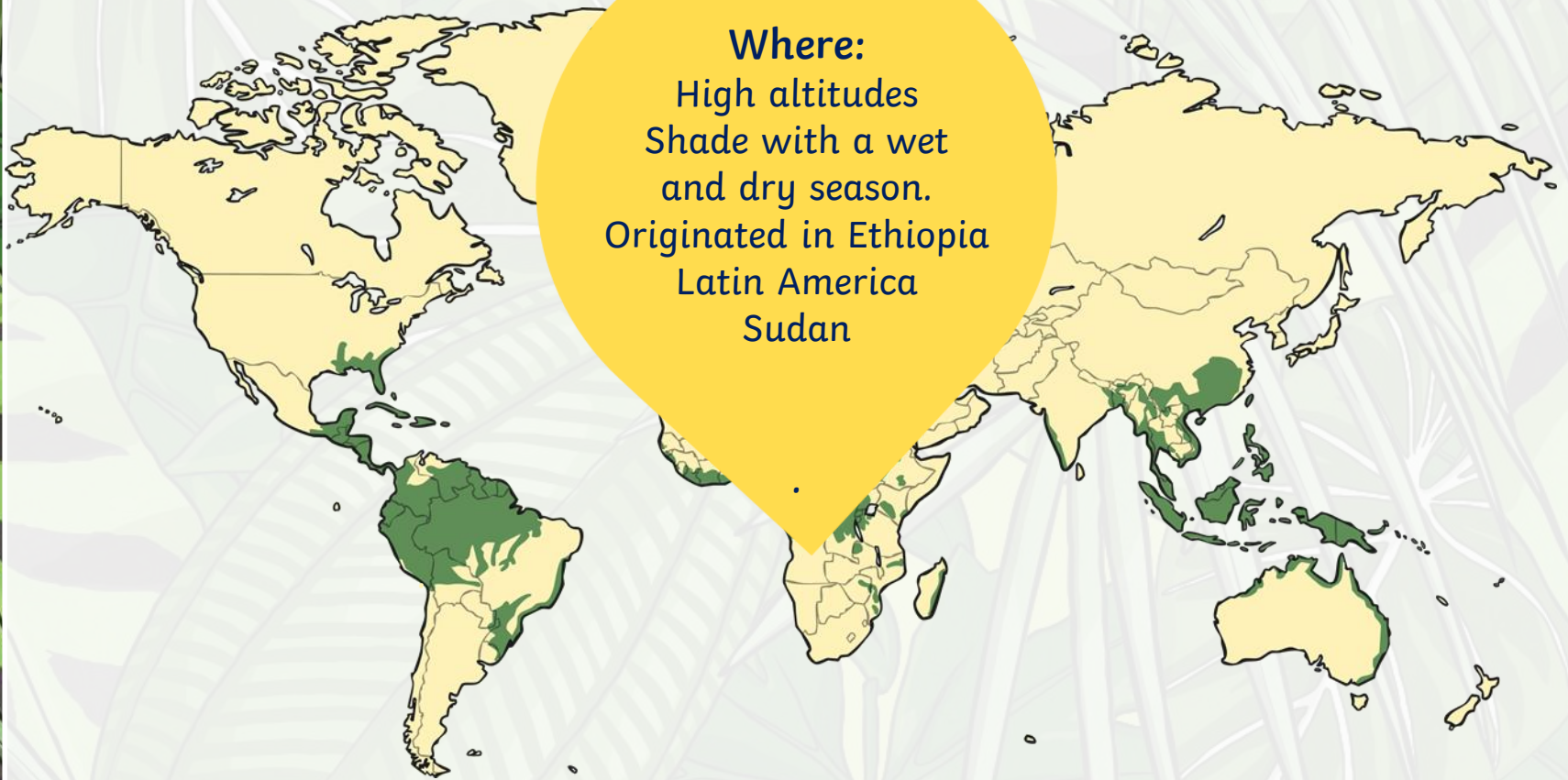


# Coffee

## Where:

High altitudes  
Shade with a wet  
and dry season.

Originated in Ethiopia  
Latin America  
Sudan



# Strelitzia - Bird of Paradise Flower



Named after the bird of paradise because of their outstanding beauty, they are prized for their ornamental uses. Their boat-shaped 'bract' (leaf that protect flowers) holds around 5 brightly coloured flowers.

# Strelitzia - Bird of Paradise Flower





twinkl