

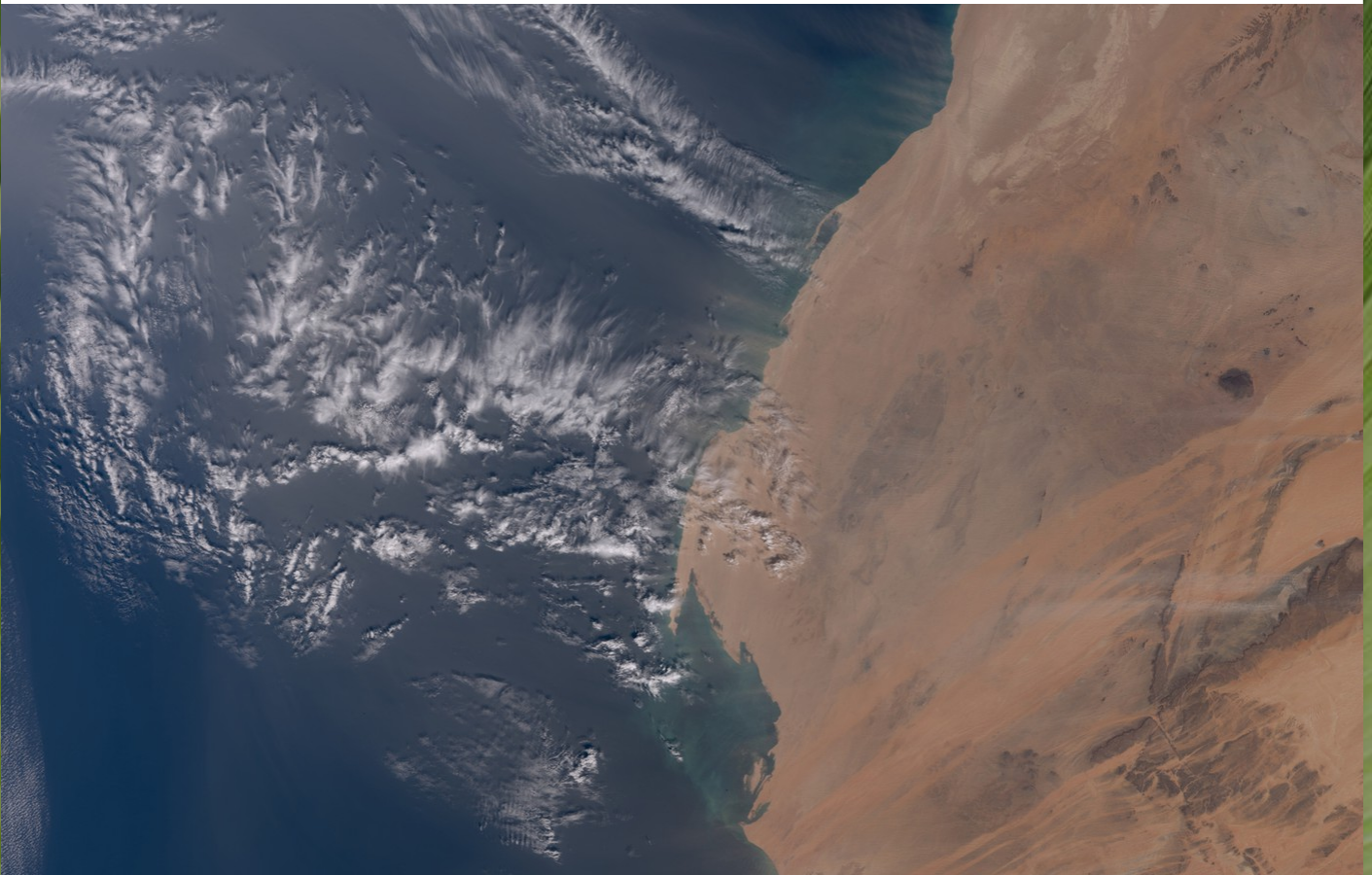
# The Amazon Rainforest

## Why it matters - The Flying River

### From Sahara desert to the Amazonia Basin

**Dust storms**, these colossal phenomena, can sometimes cloak North Africa as they traverse the Atlantic Ocean, reach the coast of Brazil, and penetrate the Amazon Basin. The Sahara Desert is more than 5,000 kilometers away in North Africa. Each grain of dust carries essential nutrients like phosphorus and iron; if the winds are favorable, those grains help fertilize the Amazon Basin. The same material that gives the Sahara its dull beige hue in satellite images is what keeps the Amazon so brilliantly green.

Every year, 27 tons of African dust fall from the sky into the Amazon Basin, providing the perfect fertilizer. As they grow, the plants and trees convert carbon dioxide into oxygen.



One tree can produce enough oxygen to support two people, and trees in the Amazon Rainforest can generate 20 times more oxygen than people on the surface of the Earth can consume. Still, no one breathes a single breath of oxygen that leaves the Amazon.

So many animals live in the Amazon Basin, and life uses all that oxygen.

We have thought the Amazon Rainforest was the planet's lung for many years. Sure, it produces a lot of oxygen, but it uses it all.

The rainforest helps us breathe, but not because of the air. There is a river in the Amazon, but not the river we think, there is a river in the sky, the Flying River.

If you could see inside the trees, you would observe water being absorbed from the forest floor, up to 1000 liters from as deep as 60 meters across 400-600 billion trees. This amounts to approximately 20 billion tons of water poured into the Atlantic Ocean daily.

## The Flying River

When the clouds hit the top, the sun and wind combine to form a mighty, flying river. If it were an actual river, it would be the biggest on the planet.



This river of clouds flows across South America, obscuring everything beneath it until it meets the solid barrier of the Andes. It stretches 7,000 km long and rises 3000-4000 meters high. The clouds condense into raindrops, then race down the slopes and flow directly back into the **Amazon Basin**. The raindrops erode the river's rock and turn it into sediment, and all those nutrients are dumped into the Atlantic Ocean, creating a whole other world.





Waiting for those sediments is an extraordinary organism four times thinner than human hair, a diatom.

Diatoms are the secret to the Earth's supply. Using silica from the ground up rock to create new shells, which allows them to reproduce, the population doubles every day, and they begin to photosynthesize, each one starting to produce oxygen.



Now take a breath! Could you take another? And now think about how one of those breaths was entirely provided by the diatom under the sea.

**Diatoms** are essential not just because of what they do when they are alive, but also what they do when they are dead.

When the nutrients run out, the blooms fade, and most Diatoms die.

Their carcasses slowly fall to the ocean floor, where they cover it with a layer of marine snow like snowflakes, 804 meters thick. But unlike the snowflakes, they don't melt and over millions of years, the sea beds rise, the ocean levels fall, and the ocean floor becomes a salty desert.

**Diatom** shells are the source of the desert that flows to the Amazon, which was once a seabed, and the dust that makes the rainforest grow.

**There is nothing on one side of the planet that is not connected to the other side of the earth.**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjpPsZTwsaM>

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Ashanary



**Ashanary**

Amazon Basin Citizen

[player.vimeo.com](https://player.vimeo.com)

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### Practical AI content exercise - Rising Awareness Climate Change

This AI-integrated exercise bridges the gap between traditional learning and modern technology, providing students with a well-rounded approach to research, content creation, and digital literacy.

By engaging with AI tools, they will develop essential skills applicable in various academic and professional settings.

### Expected Results

Upon completing this exercise, students should achieve the following outcomes:

1. **Comprehensive Understanding of the Amazon Rainforest:** Through research, refinement, and visual documentation, students will acquire in-depth knowledge about the Amazon ecosystem, including key elements such as biodiversity, climate influence, and the Flying Rivers phenomenon.
2. **Ability to Utilize AI for Content Generation:** Students will become proficient in using AI-powered platforms to generate and refine educational materials.
3. **Creation of a Well-Structured SMORE Document:** By curating relevant data and presenting it effectively, students will develop skills in organizing and synthesizing information.
4. **Engagement with AI-Powered Multimedia Tools:** Students will experience different content production and storytelling modes by creating AI-generated images and videos.
5. **Presentation and Public Speaking Skills:** Students will enhance their ability to deliver structured presentations effectively by using AI-generated avatars and voice cloning.
6. **Critical Thinking and Reflection:** Students will develop a critical perspective on AI's role in education and content creation by refining their work based on feedback and reflecting on AI tools.

### How to make the exercise

PART I:

1. Go to GPT, Gemini, or DeepSeek and generate a prompt about the Amazon rainforest, ecosystem, or Flying Rivers.
2. Refine content until you get the essential data to construct a SMORE document.
3. Once you have decided on your final text, create at least four images illustrating it.
4. Create a video that explains what is related to your information. Look for <https://invideo.io/make/video-maker/>, SORA, or any other video maker powered by AI.
5. Create the SMORE, circulate it to the group, and generate insights about each SMORE.

PART II:

1. Based on the feedback, refine your SMORE and create a presentation about your text using GPT, DeepSeek, or any other generative text.
2. Refine the presentation using the same tools into key points.
3. Copy and paste the keep point into <https://gamma.app/> to generate your presentation. You can also create the images there.
4. Once you have the presentation, go to <https://www.heygen.com/>, create your avatar, clone your voice, and generate your presentation. You can also use <https://www.d-id.com/>. Try both to get experience. Use the text of the presentation to create the voice presentation.
5. Publish your presentation on the SMORE The video must be uploaded to VIMEO
6. Reflect on the results and share your experience.

**Note:** Parts I and II can be used by teachers for any educational content. The important point is to develop critical thinking while creating the document using multiple AI tools, which, from the beginning, will not give a good result due to the lack of literacy on the subject. Subsequent refinements and the diversity of points of view generated by the students are where value lies. In

the creation process, students will discover how to fix issues like robot voice cloning by making it sound more natural. They gain digital literacy applied to education, and educational content creation.



## The Amazon Rainforest

The Amazon Rainforest - Why it matters - The Flying River by  
BRICKME METHODOLOGY

[secure.smore.com](https://secure.smore.com)

Original photos from Sebastiao Salgado from the [Amazonia](#) exhibition.

Texts inspired by one strange rock video.

Satellite image: Eumetsat



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Climate Change Awareness