A lot of the food we drink and eat, such as cocoa, coffee, bananas and mangoes can only be farmed in warm, tropical countries. Farmers are finding better ways of producing food by working with nature. Some Brazilian farmers grow cocoa trees, the source of chocolate, on small patches of rainforest. Cocoa trees are delicate plants, originally from the rainforest of Central and South America. They grow much better in the shade of taller trees. So planting cocoa trees under the moist, shady and cool canopy of rainforest trees is ideal. The ground is covered in a thick layer of composting leaves so there is no need to feed the soil with chemicals. The farmers grow fewer cocoa trees per acre but they get fewer unwanted
bugs and plant diseases. The cocoa beans are sold to the Fair Trade market and this ensures that they get a fair price for their cocoa beans. They also get extra money, which is spent on projects that benefit the whole community. Working with nature means that they can grow cocoa trees on the same land forever.