

LITTLE EXPLORERS

IN THE RAINFOREST

LIFT THE FLAPS
TO EXPLORE THE
RAINFOREST INSIDE
AND OUT!

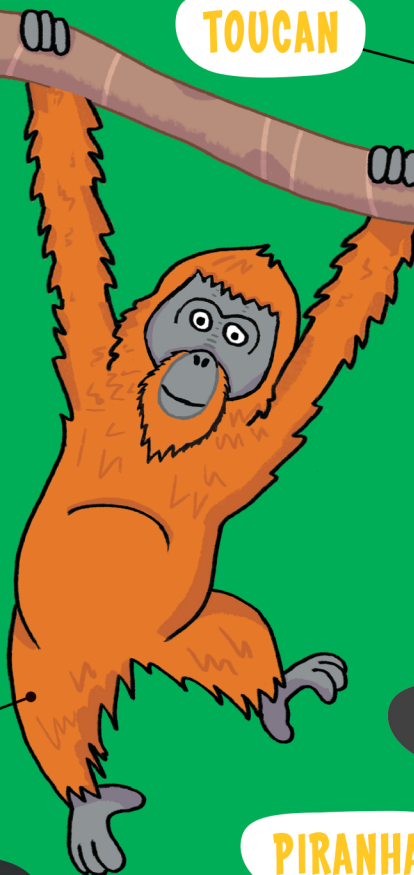
TOUCAN



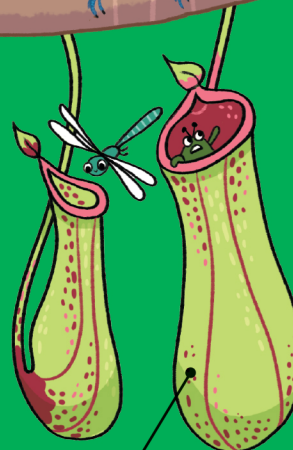
LEMURS



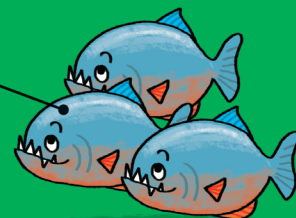
ORANGUTAN



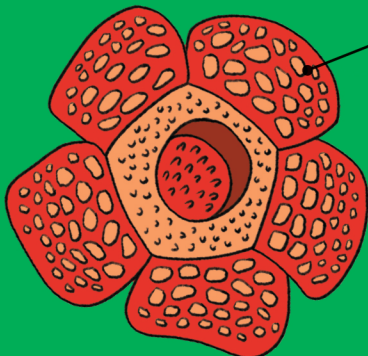
PITCHER PLANTS



PIRANHAS



RAFFLESIA



TAPIRS



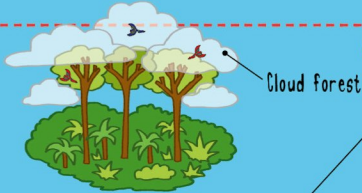
MORE THAN
30 FLAPS!

AMAZING RAINFORESTS

Rainforests can be found all around the world in places where there's lots of rain. They are home to millions of different plants and animals. Let's explore some of the world's rainforests and their fascinating features...

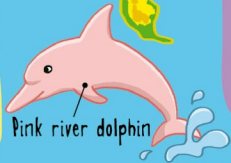
Central America

Some of the rainforests in Central America are known as cloud forests, because the tops of the trees are usually covered in a thick blanket of mist and cloud.



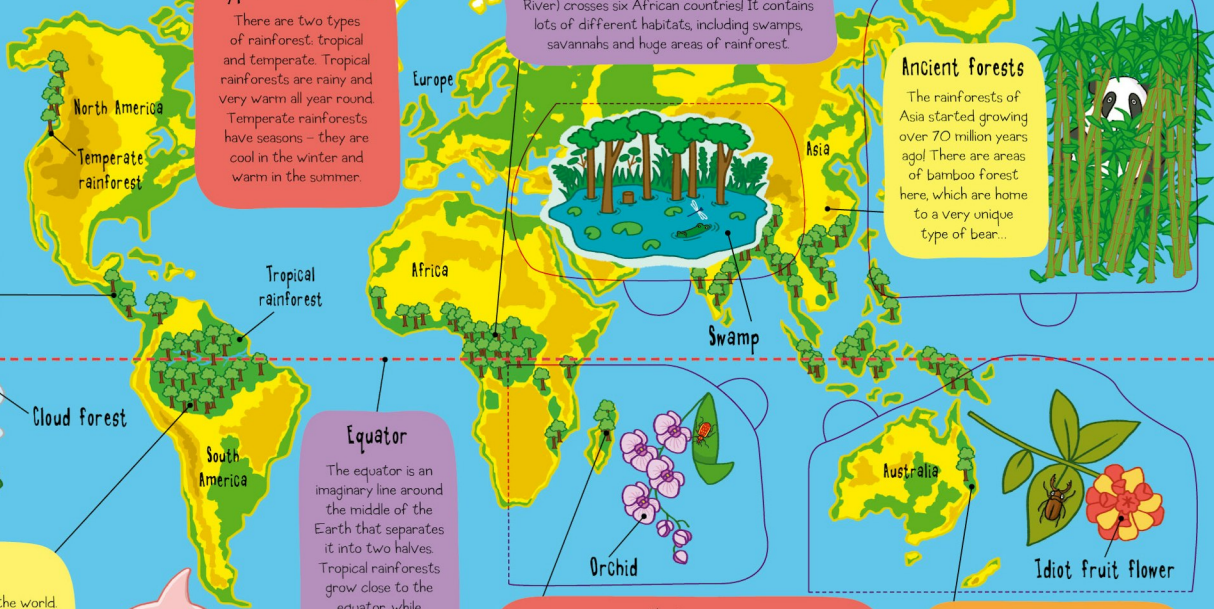
The Amazon

The Amazon is the biggest rainforest in the world. It is home to over 400 types of mammals, and thousands of different types of birds, fish and bugs. The pink river dolphin is one amazing Amazon animal that can't be found anywhere else on Earth!



Types of rainforest

There are two types of rainforest: tropical and temperate. Tropical rainforests are rainy and very warm all year round. Temperate rainforests have seasons – they are cool in the winter and warm in the summer.



Equator

The equator is an imaginary line around the middle of the Earth that separates it into two halves. Tropical rainforests grow close to the equator, while temperate rainforests grow further north or south.

The Congo

The Congo Basin (the area around the Congo River) crosses six African countries! It contains lots of different habitats, including swamps, savannahs and huge areas of rainforest.



Ancient forests

The rainforests of Asia started growing over 70 million years ago! There are areas of bamboo forest here, which are home to a very unique type of bear...



Madagascar

Tropical rainforests can be found in the eastern areas of Madagascar. Orchids are the most common flower in this rainforest, with over 1,000 different types found here!

Unique flowers

Many of Australia's rainforest flowers, such as the idiot fruit flower, can only be found in this part of the world!



BY THE RIVER

Tropical rainforests contain some of the world's largest rivers. The rivers and nearby land provide food and shelter for many animals. Let's take a trip down the Congo River in Africa to learn more about life by the water...



Cameroon otter

Red river hog

Red river hogs like to hang out near swamps and rivers, where they sniff around for roots to eat. These small wild pigs are also excellent swimmers!



Little bittern



Nile Crocodile

Crocodiles lie on riverbanks waiting for prey. They open their mouth to keep cool, just like a panting dog!



Hinge-back tortoise



Above the surface

Insects such as damselflies hover just above the water in search of other insects to eat. Tasty!



Manatee

Manatees glide through the water without even making a ripple. This is a useful skill to have when trying to avoid crocodiles!



Grey parrot



Deep waters

Certain parts of the Congo River are more than 200 metres deep. Some skyscrapers would disappear below the surface!

Who's under the water?



Lungfish

The prehistoric lungfish has been around for nearly 400 million years! Unlike most fish, it can breathe air just like we do, using its specially adapted lungs.



Hippopotamus

To keep cool under the scorching African sun, hippos spend most of their days in the water. They can hold their breath under the surface for up to five minutes!

TYPES OF RIVER

Clearwater river

Clearwater rivers are clear in colour and flow speedily through very old rocky areas. Lots of plants grow around this type of river.



Blackwater river

Blackwater rivers are dark brown or black. They may look murky, but these rivers contain some of the cleanest natural waters in the world!



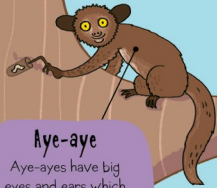
Whitewater river

Whitewater rivers aren't white at all, but light brown - like chocolate milk! This colour comes from soil that has washed into the water.



LIFE UP HIGH

Animals in the canopy layer have special features that help them live high up in the rainforest trees. Let's see who's hanging around in the treetops and learn more about these fascinating animals...



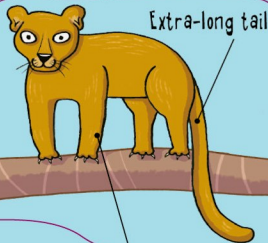
Aye-aye

Aye-ayes have big eyes and ears which help them find their way through the dark rainforest at night. When they're hungry, aye-ayes use their extra-long middle finger to pull tasty insect grubs (maggots) from holes in the trees.



Flying fox

Flying foxes are actually bats. These busy animals can fly more than 30 kilometres in one night in search of fruit to eat!



Extra-long tail

Fossa

A fossa uses its long tail to balance on high branches. This catlike animal has sharp claws and terrifying teeth which it uses to catch prey.



Clever crawler!

Joseph's coat caterpillars chew tree bark for hours and hours. They use it to cover their cocoon (hard outer cases), to protect them as they change into a moth.

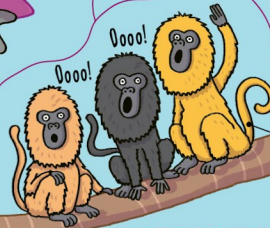
Weary wings

A hummingbird's wings beat so fast when it flies that it needs to rest for a long time in-between flights.



Orangutan

The name 'orangutan' means 'person of the forest'. These apes spend nearly all their time in the trees. They even sleep in leafy nests high up in the branches.



Howler monkey

The roaring cries of howler monkeys can be heard up to 5 kilometres away. Their loud call is a message to other monkeys to say 'this spot is taken!'

Whoosh!



Flying snake

Flying snakes take a clever shortcut to get from tree to tree. Instead of slithering up from the floor, they propel themselves off branches and glide through the air!

Who's hiding?



THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

The Amazon is the biggest rainforest on Earth, stretching across nine South American countries. It is a very important habitat because more than half of all types of plants and wildlife can be found here.

Super swimmer

In April 2007, Martin Strel swam the entire length of the Amazon River in 66 days!

Winding water

The Amazon River is around 6,400 kilometres long. It empties millions of litres of water into the ocean every second!

Marvellous medicine

Thousands of plants from the Amazon, including the cinchona tree, have been used in medicines to treat lots of different illnesses.

Cinchona tree

Piranha

Piranhas are one of the many dangerous animals found in the Amazon River. These meat-eating fish have very sharp teeth. They hunt in large groups called shoals!

Massive menu

Lots of the fruit, vegetables, nuts and spices that we eat were first found in the Amazon.



Banana



Avocado



Mango



Pineapple

Anaconda

One of the world's largest snakes, the anaconda, can be found lurking in the Amazon River.

Shabono

I live here!

There are around 400 different groups of people that live in the Amazon rainforest. The largest group are the Yanomami people who live in big, round huts called shabonos.

Earth's lungs

The Amazon is sometimes called the 'Earth's lungs' because the plants here produce 20 per cent of all the fresh air that we breathe.

Oxygen

