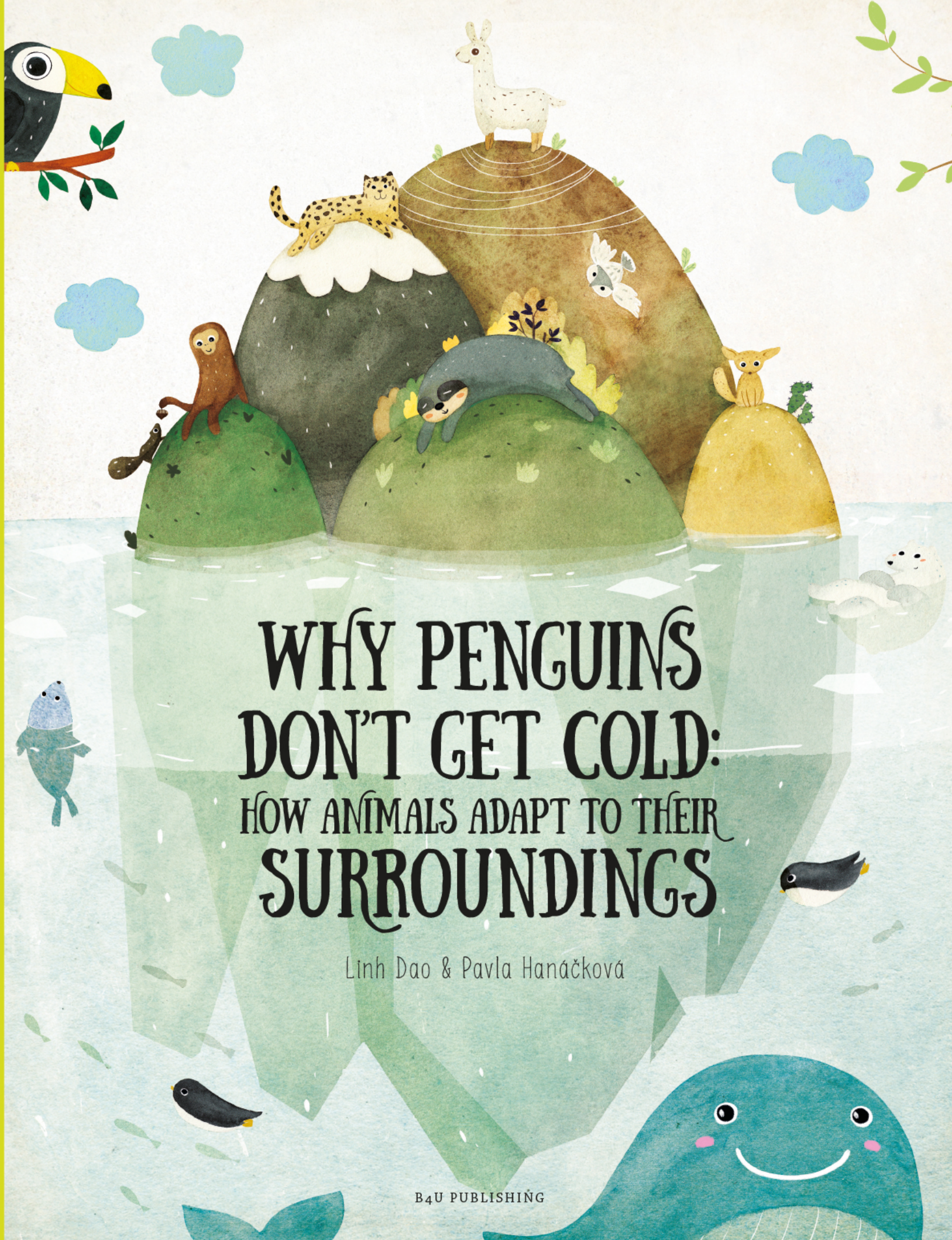




Linh Dao & Pavla Hanáčková

WHY PENGUINS DON'T GET COLD: HOW ANIMALS ADAPT TO THEIR SURROUNDINGS



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B4U PUBLISHING

RAINFOREST

GREEN VEGETATION TEEMING WITH LIFE

Hot weather, high humidity, and green vegetation anywhere the eye can see. That's a rainforest - a place where it's hot just like in the desert, but where raining is the rule, not the exception. Due to the sufficient moisture, rainforests host an incredible amount of various plants and animals. How do they all do around here? Aren't they exposed to more danger than they would have been if they lived somewhere else? Let's set out for the rainforest and meet its inhabitants!



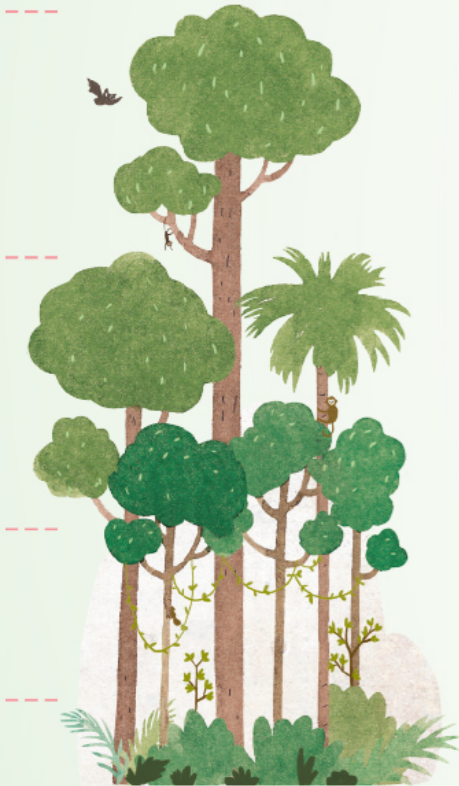
CONSPICUOUS, OR INCONSPICUOUS?

What do you think: is it better not to be seen, or to draw attention to yourself? You can do both in the rainforest. Some animals are indistinguishable from leaves, twigs, or blossoms. Having a neutral green or brown colouration is also nothing to sneeze at. Others are amazingly colourful. But don't they attract needless attention? On the contrary, they're quite smart; either they're poisonous, or imitate the colouration of actual poisonous species in order not to get eaten. ▼

Walking flower mantis



Poison dart frog



HE WHO HIDES WINS

It's great fun to play hide-and-seek among so many plants. But it's not really a game around here, more like trying not to end up as somebody's snack. Some animals rely on living in the treetops where they're out of reach of predators. Others swear by their protective colouring which makes them invisible. ▼



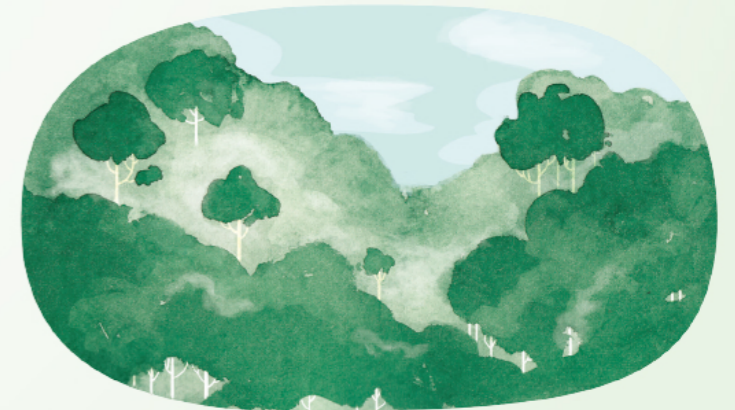
UP & BEYOND

Many rainforest inhabitants are able to live both **on the ground and in the treetops**. It needs to be said, though, that they're safer above the forest floor. That's because they're better equipped to live higher up: the animals have strong front legs which enable them to climb trees well. If they have a tail, it functions as a "third hand" to hold onto branches. As you can see, they certainly don't lack useful gadgets... ▼



NATIVES

Rainforests host a lot of native tribes who still live in complete harmony with nature and have no knowledge of modern conveniences. The rainforest is their home, which is why they know it inside out. Men of the Yanomami tribe are considered the best hunters in the world because they can hear the slightest sounds and can strike the offending animal with pinpoint accuracy. ◀



DANGERS OF THE JUNGLE

Jungles can be described as divided into several **layers**. The bottom one is damp and dim, with little sunshine. On the other hand, the treetops are simply bustling with life. People must be constantly on their toes, though; just about anything or anyone can hide in the thick growth... ▲



WHAT IS A RAINFOREST?

Even though rainforests cover only approximately 3% of our planet's surface, you can find a huge amount of different plants and animals in them. Why so? Because it rains each day in rainforests, there's a lot of sunshine, and the plants grow really fast and high. Rainforests are nicknamed **the lungs of the Earth** because such a large number of plants can produce a great amount of oxygen. Most of the local animals can be found up the treetops. ►

RAINFOREST INHABITANTS

LIVING UP THE TREETOPS



Is it a hand or a tail?

GEOFFROY'S SPIDER MONKEY

This animal is considered one of the most nimble tree-dwelling monkeys. It has **long fingers** whose function is similar to that of hooks – the monkey simply hangs on a branch and then moves from one branch to another by swinging. The long tail serves as a sort of “fifth” hand which allows the animal to better hold onto branches when climbing through the treetops. ▲

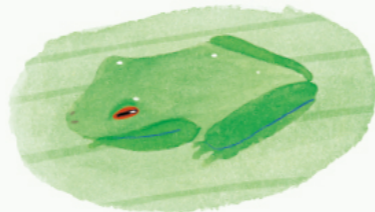
JAGUAR

Dots on a jaguar's body provide an excellent camouflage in rainforests. This big cat lives on the ground where little sunlight falls. The play of shadow and light is very advantageous for this hunter. No wonder that the jaguar is one of the largest predators in the entire jungle. It treads quietly on its paws and attacks quickly. Jaguars are even able to climb trees which allows them to surprise their prey by leaping on it and attacking. ►



RED-EYED TREE FROG

This frog is one of the most multi-coloured amphibians on Earth. During the day, though, it uses **camouflage**: the frog remains calm and maintains an unchanging position, with limbs tucked under its body and red eyes closed. You'd never be able to distinguish it from leaves when it's like this. Red-eyed tree frogs have soft pads on their feet which enable them to attach themselves to leaves. These animals are great jumpers and climbers. ▼



BROWN-THROATED SLOTH

This smiling Adonis feels quite settled high up the treetops. A sloth's fingers with long curved claws allow it to hang from branches like it's no big deal. These animals have an inconspicuous colouration, very often with greenish tinge which is caused by the algae growing on their fur. Additionally, sloths are quiet and move slowly – this makes them the ideal, well-masked jungle dwellers. ◀



ARA ARAKANGA

You simply won't overlook this **multi-coloured** beauty! And yet... even though it's mostly red, the yellow and blue parts help it blend in with the surrounding foliage, blossoms, and fruit. These parrots are large, have strong wings, and can fly quickly. They use their strong claws to hold onto branches, but also to capture and examine various objects – like nuts, for example, which they easily crack open with their sharp beak. ►



HE DID NOT NOTICE ME AT ALL!

I'M SAFE AND SOUND!



BRAZILIAN THREE-BANDED ARMADILLO

Even though jungles can be dangerous, this little fellow needn't worry. Its body is covered with a shell of bony slates which serve as an **armour**. All the armadillo needs to do is to curl up, and it's completely free from harm! ◀

WALKING FLOWER MANTIS

Did you think that I have some pretty flower to show you? Not at all – this is an insect! A walking flower mantis is a mantis species which resembles an orchid blossom. This “**disguise**” is, no exaggeration, just perfect – the looks even look like petals! Walking flower mantises use their looks to easily attract pollinators, such as bees and other insects, and turn them into their dinner. ►

Resembles a flower



WHY PENGUINS DON'T GET COLD: HOW ANIMALS ADAPT TO THEIR SURROUNDINGS

WE ARE PERFECTLY ADAPTED TO OUR ENVIRONMENT!

Written by Pavla Hanáčková
Illustrated by Linh Dao

Why do animals of the desert have big ears and light-coloured coats? Penguins are surrounded by ice and snow, so why aren't they cold? Can animals live at the bottom of steep mountains? Of course they can! Nature has arranged for every creature to adapt as well as possible to its natural surroundings. Come with us on a journey through the natural world, as we travel to deep oceans, brightly coloured jungles and the peaks of great mountains, where you'll meet animals and plants that are truly thriving. And you'll learn how animals are able to adapt to give themselves the best possible life.



Great equipment for harsh conditions!

Charming little book filled with beautiful illustrations.



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