



TAKE ME HOME:

Forests of the World



LOCATED NEAR THE EQUATOR – ESPECIALLY IN SOUTH AMERICA, AFRICA, SOUTHEAST ASIA AND OCEANIA.



THIS FOREST EXHIBITS A HIGH LEVEL OF BIODIVERSITY. THAT'S BECAUSE THESE RAINFORESTS WERE THE FIRST ONES TO THRIVE ON EARTH.



THERE IS NO DRY SEASON – THE WEATHER IS HOT AND WET ALL YEAR ROUND.

The Tropical Rainforest

“Come on, don't be shy! Just watch your step! Our rainforest is bustling with life – with every step you take, you'll encounter all sorts of local inhabitants – be them small, large, colourful or furry. I'm Tony the toucan and I know this forest like the back of my wing. As we're close to the equator, plants are green throughout the whole year. I'm sure you'll find many new friends here. Wait for me; I'll just inform everybody that we have visitors!”



PLANTS ARE GREEN AND KEEP GROWING AND BLOOMING ALL YEAR ROUND.

COME ON, THIS IS OUR LAST STOP!

I CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER!



IN AREAS CLOSE TO THE EQUATOR, FREQUENT RAINS ARE NOTHING UNUSUAL. IN ORDER TO CATCH ENOUGH SUNLIGHT, PLANTS ON THE FOREST FLOOR HAVE HUGE LEAVES, WHOSE TIPS POINT DOWNWARDS. WATER SLIDES OFF THEM EASILY.

RAINFORESTS ARE IRREPLACEABLE – NO WONDER THEY ARE NICKNAMED “THE LUNGS OF THE EARTH”. THEY HAVE A HUGE IMPACT ON THE CLIMATE OF OUR PLANET.

HURRY UP!



As you know, the growth of plants booms around the equator. Apart from the ideal weather conditions, plants need one more thing: sunlight. In some parts of the forest, that's a pretty rare thing. Thus, some trees grow really high, while other have adapted to the life in shadows. Such plants grow on the forest floor, where light is scarce because of the dense canopy. On the other hand, in the canopy, there's plenty of light. That's why many goodies, such as fruits and nuts, grow there and attract eaters from different parts of the rainforest.



THE AMAZONIAN MOTMOT

THE GEOFFREY'S TREE MONKEY

THE ORCHID

BROMELIADS

THE AMAZON TREE BOA

LIANAS

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN AGOUTI

THE NINE-BANDED ARMADILLO

THE LEAF-CUTTING ANT

THE GIANT ANTEATER

THE POISON DART FROG

THE KAPOK TREE

THE GREEN ANACONDA

OOPS!

ZZZZ

WHAT GROWS HERE?



BROMELIADS

...GROW ON TREES, JUST LIKE ORCHIDS. DID YOU KNOW THAT A PINEAPPLE IS A KIND OF BROMELIAD?



ORCHIDS

...ARE EPIPHYTES – THE TYPE OF A PLANT THAT GROWS ON OTHER PLANTS. THIS WAY, THEY CAN GROW HIGHER AND CLOSER TO THE SUN.



HELICONIAS

...ARE EASY TO SPOT - THEIR VIBRANT COLOURS ATTRACT POLLINATORS, ESPECIALLY HUMMINGBIRDS. IN RETURN FOR SWEET NECTAR THEY SPREAD POLLEN, HELPING NEW PLANTS GROW.



LIANAS

...ARE VINES ON TREES, COVERING THEM FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. THEY CONNECT TREES AND FORM BRIDGES FOR FOREST ANIMALS.



PAPAYA

...IS ONE OF MANY TYPES OF EXOTIC FRUIT THAT GROW IN THE RAINFOREST. VARIOUS MONKEYS, AS WELL AS TONY, LIKE TO EAT THEM.



COCOA

...GROWS ON THE COCOA TREE. THEY ARE ONE OF THE TREASURES THAT THE RAINFOREST OFFERS US.

Rainforest Layers

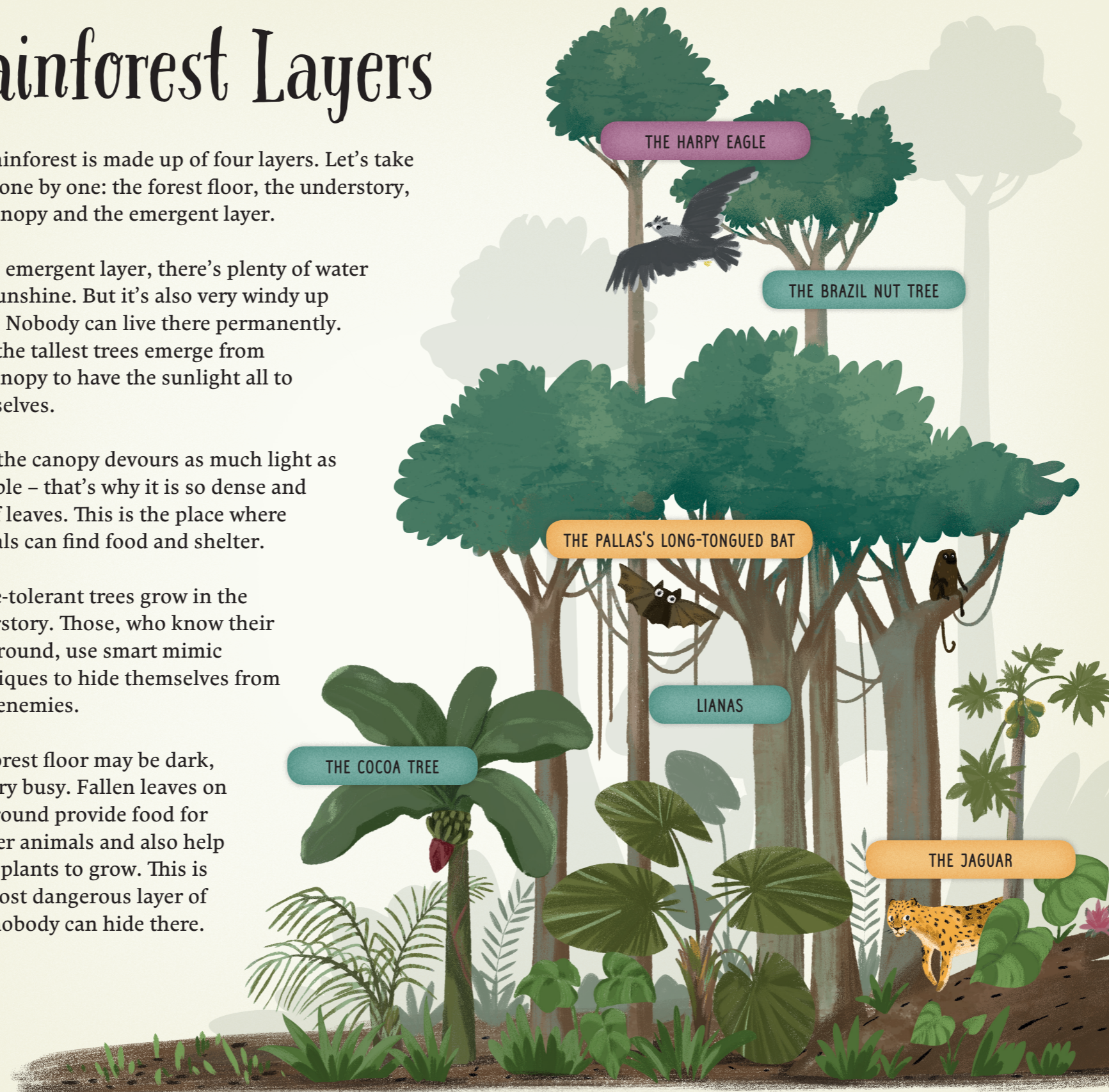
The rainforest is made up of four layers. Let's take them one by one: the forest floor, the understory, the canopy and the emergent layer.

In the emergent layer, there's plenty of water and sunshine. But it's also very windy up there! Nobody can live there permanently. Only the tallest trees emerge from the canopy to have the sunlight all to themselves.

Even the canopy devours as much light as possible – that's why it is so dense and full of leaves. This is the place where animals can find food and shelter.

Shade-tolerant trees grow in the understory. Those, who know their way around, use smart mimic techniques to hide themselves from their enemies.

The forest floor may be dark, yet very busy. Fallen leaves on the ground provide food for smaller animals and also help small plants to grow. This is the most dangerous layer of all – nobody can hide there.



WHO LIVES HERE?



THE BLUE MORPHO BUTTERFLY

...IS ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLIES. BUT WHEN IT CLOSES ITS COLOURFUL WINGS, IT BECOMES ALMOST INVISIBLE.



THE PRAYING MANTIS

PLAYS HIDE-AND-SEEK. SOME BLEND IN THANKS TO THEIR COLOURS; OTHERS HAVE BODIES SHAPED LIKE TWIGS, LEAVES OR FLOWERS.



THE HUMMINGBIRD

...MAY BE SMALL, BUT IS A VERY AGILE AND FAST BIRD. IT FEEDS ON NECTAR FROM FLOWERS, WHICH IT SUCKS OUT WITH ITS PECULIAR BILL.



THE SCARLET MACAW

THESE COLOURFUL PARROTS ARE SYNONYMOUS WITH THE RAINFOREST. THEY LIVE IN THE CANOPY, WHERE THEY TALK AND PLAY WITH EACH OTHER.



THE HOWLER MONKEY

OF ALL THE MONKEYS IN THE FOREST, HOWLER MONKEYS ARE THE LOUDEST ONES. THEIR VOICES CARRY THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE RAINFOREST.



THE BAIRD'S TAPIR

...LOVES DENSE AND WET FORESTS. IT LOVES TO EAT, SO IT DOESN'T MIND SPENDING THE DAY SEARCHING FOR DELICIOUS LEAVES, TWIGS OR FRUIT.



TAKE ME HOME: Forests of the World


WRITTEN BY PAVLA HANÁČKOVÁ
ILLUSTRATED BY LINH DAO

Go around the world with us and get to know different types of forests and its inhabitants as well as plants. Our animal friends will join you on this journey. They're having the adventure of a lifetime: they want to get to the home they belong to. But what if they don't know where their home is? Luckily, they have Charlie. He'll accompany them on their journey to see and discover various forests to find which one is the right one for each of them. And what happens after they reach their final destination? We'll sure the animals will love to tell you. Join us on our journey along which you'll learn many new things!

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Small parts. Not suitable for children
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