

Animals of the Rainforest

Rainforest Calling



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Contents

The animals featured here are all typically found in the rainforests of South America.

Potoo

Red-Eyed Tree Frog

Sloth

Scarlet Macaw

Emerald Tree Boa

Jaguar

Potoo

Potoos are a noisy, strange-looking bird, which can often be found in the canopy of the Amazon rainforest.

Appearance

- They have huge, gaping mouths.
- Potoos have large, sometimes yellow, eyes.
- Their feathers are grey, brown and black, and are perfect as camouflage against tree trunks.

Diet

- The potoo mostly eats bugs and insects, including grasshoppers, moths and beetles.

Habitat

- Potoos can be found in humid forests in Central and South America.
- They live in the high branches of trees, camouflaged among the tree bark.



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← back

Sloth

Sloths are nocturnal mammals and are known for being particularly slow-moving creatures.

Appearance

- Species of sloths are divided into two families: two-toed and three-toed sloths.
- They have thick fur, rounded heads, flat snouts and stumpy tails.
- They commonly have algae growing on their fur.

Diet

- Some sloth species only eat leaves.
- Other types of sloth also eat fruit, insects and even small lizards.

Habitat

- Sloths are mostly found in Central and South American rainforests.
- They mainly live among the branches of trees.



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← back

Emerald Tree Boa

The emerald tree boa is a non-venomous snake, which is often found in the Amazon rainforest.

Appearance

- Emerald tree boas are bright green with a yellow underside.
- They have an irregular, zigzag pattern along their back.
- Adult emerald tree boas can grow to reach up to 2 metres.
- They have a pair of long, sharp teeth, pointed backwards.
- Their heads are relatively large and flat.

Diet

- They feed mostly on small mammals such as rats, bats and possums.



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Habitat

- Emerald tree boas live in the trees of the Amazon rainforest.
- They can also often be found near rivers or swamps but are not dependent on open water.

← back

Red-Eyed Tree Frog

The red-eyed tree frog is just one of many species of frog that lives in the rainforest.

Appearance

- They are known for having huge, bright red eyes.
- The rest of their body is neon green with blue and yellow at the sides.
- They have specially adapted suction-cup toes which help them to cling on to tree branches and leaves.

Diet

- The red-eyed tree frogs' prey includes moths, crickets, flies and grasshoppers.

Habitat

- They are commonly found in the tropical lowland rainforests or surrounding hills.
- They commonly inhabit areas close to rivers or ponds.



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← back

Scarlet Macaw

The scarlet macaw is one of at least 17 known species of macaws. Most are intelligent, social birds.

Appearance

- Despite their name, scarlet macaws are multicoloured: red, yellow and blue.
- They have large, powerful beaks.
- Their bodies are between 80cm to 90cm long.

Diet

- They mostly eat fruit and seeds or nuts, but can also eat insects.

Habitat

- They thrive in the tropical, humid atmosphere of the rainforest.
- They are usually found in the emergent or canopy layers of the forest.



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← back

Jaguar

The jaguar is a member of the wild cat family that can be found in the rainforest regions.

Appearance

- They are famous for their beautiful, spotted coats.
- They can reach up to six feet in length, from their nose to the tip of their tail.
- They have powerful jaws and sharp teeth.

Diet

- Jaguars are carnivores with an extensive list of possible meals including squirrels, deer and monkeys.

Habitat

- Jaguars are found in rainforests as well as grasslands and woodlands.
- They spend much of their time on the ground or the forest floor, using their soft padded paws to stalk quietly through the undergrowth.



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← back