

Animals of the rainforest

Introduction

There are many different types of animals in the rainforest and there is a lot of competition for food and habitats, so some species become specialised and adapt to eat things that few others do. They also use colours to camouflage themselves or to warn off predators.



Toucan

Bright colours are to attract a mate.



Strong claws can grip onto trees/branches easily

Toucans nest in tree holes to keep themselves hidden from prey.

The large colourful bill is meant to deter predators.

Strong bill to crack open nuts

Anteater (vested)



Huge paws with claws allow it to open nests.

Long tail helps to climb trees and balance.

Lives in the canopy and on the ground.

Long Sticky tongue to get ants or termites out of their nests.

Central American Squirrel Monkey



Huge tails for balance in the canopy where they live.

Paws are like hands to eat fruit and nuts, and to help grip trees.

Squirrel monkeys leap through the trees so have short, strong thighs to give them more power when they jump.

Heliconid Butterfly



Wings are camouflaged to look like leaves.

Rhinoceros Beetle



Large horn for defensive purposes.

Very hard protective shell.

Very loud hissing to frighten off predators.

Poison dart frog



They spit out
poison as a
defence.

Suction pads on the
toes help to cling to
trees and leaves when
climbing.

Bright colour is
used to warn
off predators.

Red Eyed Tree Frog

has suction cups on its toes that enable it to climb trees and on leaves



The Red-Eyed Tree Frog is well known for its bulging red eyes and beautiful blue streaks and orange toes. When the Tree Frog sleeps it hides its sharp colours

Lives near ponds, streams and rivers

Feeds on smaller frogs, insects and crickets

Great Hornbill

The main food the Hornbill eats is fruit. It also eats small lizards, insects, snakes and small mammals.



They can fly over large areas of the forest in one day, just in search of food.

They find shelter in the small openings of trees

The casque, on the top of the Hornbill's head, acts as an amplifier for its calls.

Reticulated Python

Diet consist of birds, mammals of different sizes including deer and pigs and on very rare occasions possibly **humans**



The Reticulated Python can usually be found near water, including ponds and rivers

It will use its large muscular body to constrict and suffocate its prey.

The average length of an adult Reticulated Python can range from 15 - 25 feet making it the longest snake and reptile in the world

Jaguar



Can swim and climb trees to get their prey.



Three-Toed sloth

Moves extremely slowly so it doesn't draw attention to itself from predators



Very strong legs and claws to hang still for a long time.

Greenish algae on its fur provides camouflage

Pitcher plant

Contains a liquid inside that attracts insects, once they are in they cannot escape.



The cup part of the plant has a lid that closes so that the liquid inside does not become diluted in heavy rainfall.



Can you invent your own Rainforest animal by combining two or more animals?

Things to think about:

What does your animal look like?

What is your animal called?

What does your animal like to eat?