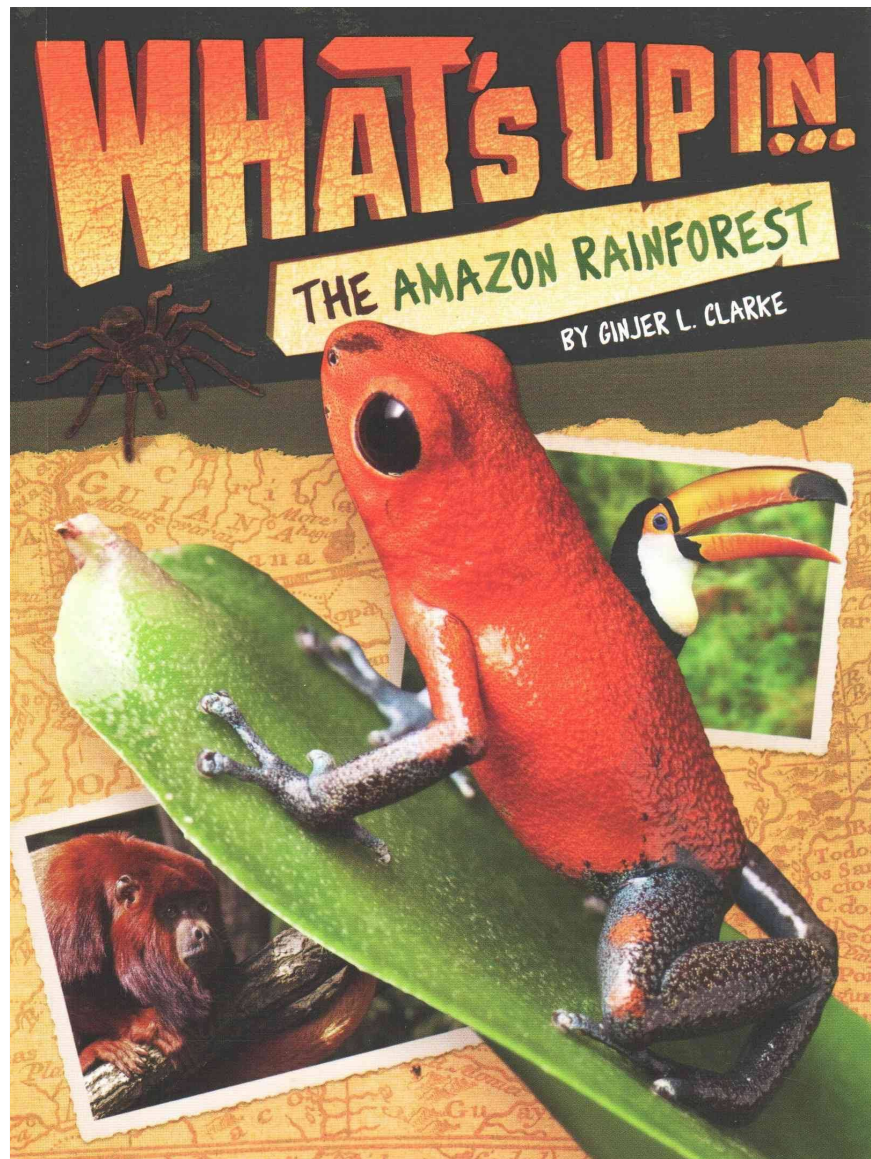


What's Up in . . . The Amazon Rainforest

Activity Guide for Teachers and Students



by Ginjer L. Clarke

Grosset & Dunlap 2015

Activity Guide for What's Up in ... The Amazon Rainforest

by
Ginjer L. Clarke

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Study guide developed by Tanya Anderson at School Street Media



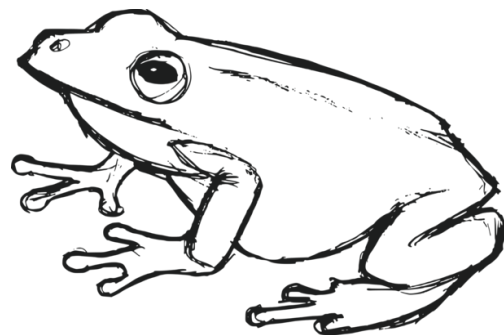
About the Author

Ginjer L. Clarke writes fun, fact-filled nonfiction beginning readers about weird, wonderful animals. Her love for strange creatures started early, as the first story she remembers writing in the third grade was “The Strange Animal” about a small, pink-spotted imaginary creature called a Woofa. She loves that her job entails visiting zoos and aquariums, reading lots of books, and even watching TV for research. And she can work at home in her pajamas, which is a lifelong dream!



Ginjer is an experienced and lively school, library, and conference presenter, who has appeared at more than 200 elementary schools, regional reading and writing conferences, statewide book festivals, many bookstores and libraries, and even a zoo. She is a graduate of James Madison University and lives in Richmond, Virginia, with her husband, young son, and several silly-looking pets.

You can read more about the author and her books at www.ginjerclarkebooks.com.



Show What You Know

Before you read or discuss the book, you probably already know something about the topic. Show what you know by answering the questions below.



1. What do you think you will find in a rainforest?

2. Where on Earth do you think you could find a rainforest?

3. What kinds of animals and plants live in rainforests?

4. Do you think you'd like to visit a rainforest someday? Why or why not?

Words, Words, Words: A Rainforest Vocabulary, Part 1

You will find each of the words below in the book. Find them and then rewrite the definition in your own words.



1. habitat (p. 5)
2. humidity (p. 11)
3. plant uptake (p. 12)
4. transpiration (p. 13)
5. precipitation (p. 13)
6. understory (p. 15)
7. canopy (p. 15)
8. tributaries (p. 18)
9. adaptations (p. 22)

Words, Words, Words: A Rainforest Vocabulary, Part 2

You will find each of the words below in the book. Find them and then rewrite the definition in your own words.



10. endangered (p. 23)

11. echolocation, or sonar (p. 23)

12. constrictor (p. 32)

13. indigenous (p. 40)

14. microhabitat (p. 80)

15. pendulum (p. 85)

16. emergent trees (p. 86)

17. epiphytes (p. 89)

18. pictograms (p. 106)

Words, Words, Words: A Rainforest Vocabulary, Part 3

You will find each of the words below in the book. Find them and then rewrite the definition in your own words.



19. tribe (p. 108)

20. superstition (p. 117)

21. atmosphere (p. 130)

22. global warming (p. 133)

23. deforestation (p. 134)

24. conservation (p. 136)

25. sustainable development (p. 136)

Where in the World?

Tropical rainforests are located in several places throughout the world. Use online and library sources to mark and color where they are on the map below. Then label the areas where they are found.



Complete the following sentences with information from *Chapter 1: What Is the Amazon Rainforest?*

1. The average rainforest trees are between ____ and ____ years old.
2. The Amazon rainforest is almost as big as _____.
3. All of the plants and animals that live there are _____.
4. The temperature of the rainforest is between ____°F and ____°F.
5. The _____ is the largest river in the world.

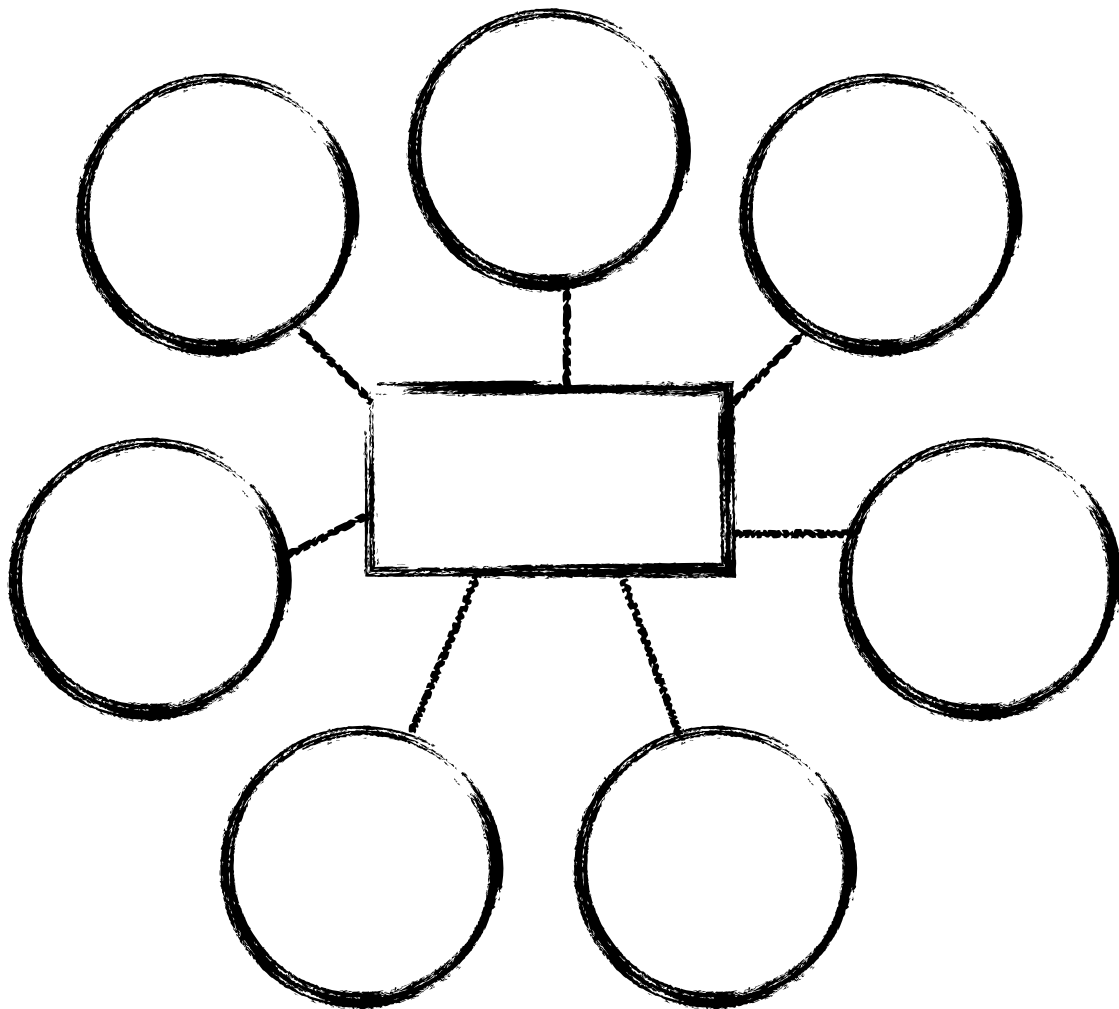
A Wild, Wild River

Draw a map of South America and show where the Amazon River is located. Put a star ★ where the river begins.

On the back of this page, write an expository essay about the Amazon River using information you learned from *What's Up in the Amazon Rainforest*.

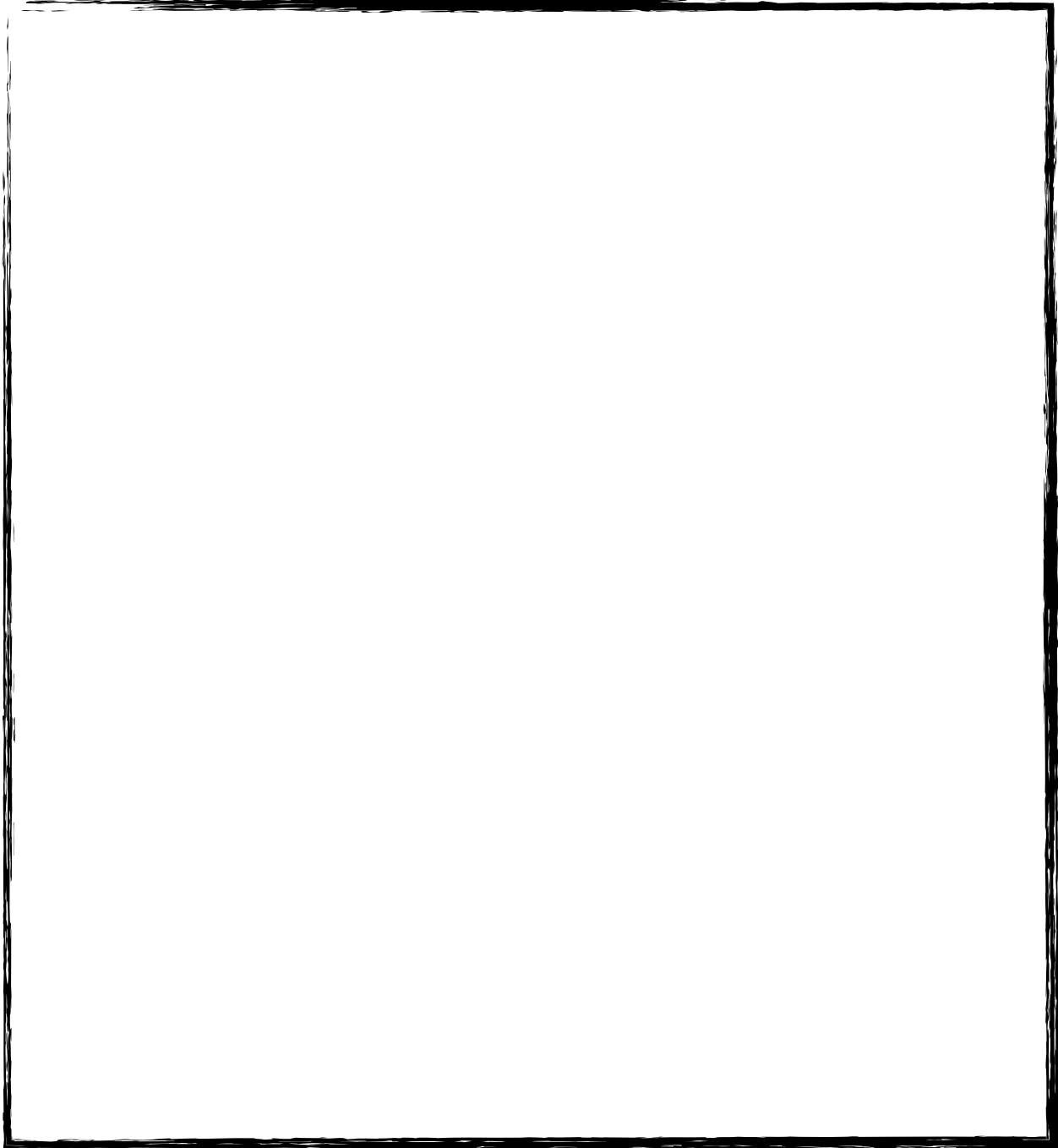
The Animals of the Rainforest

Choose one of the animals described in *What's Up in the Amazon Rainforest*. Use library or online resources to find out more about that animal. Then create an idea web to record what you learned. Use those details to write a descriptive paragraph about your animal on the other side of this page.



The Plants of the Rainforest

Use your library or online resources to research a unique plant that lives in the Amazon rainforest. Then draw the plant here and create a field journal page about that plant as if you discovered the plant for the first time.



The People of the Rainforest

Working in groups, use *What's Up in the Amazon Rainforest* and other resources to create a classroom news report about the tribes of the Amazon. Your presentation can be live or recorded as a video. Use this page to plan your presentation.



Alike and Different

Think about how the tribal people of the Amazon rainforest are similar to and different from the people of North America. Fill in the chart below to show these similarities and differences.

	Alike	Different
People of Amazon Rainforest		
People of North America		

Treasures from the Rainforest

Make a shopping list of natural products that come from the Amazon rainforest that are used to make things you like to eat or drink. Then add items you have never tasted but would like to try someday.



Shopping List

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-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----

Things I Want to Try Someday

-----	-----
-----	-----

Saving the Rainforest

Imagine that author Ginjer Clarke asked you to be a guest blogger on her website. She wants you to write about the threats to the Amazon rainforest and ways students can help save it. Write your blog entry below and be sure to include facts and details to persuade others to help save the rainforest.

Ginjer L. Clarke's Blog

Today's Guest Blogger is _____

Additional Activities

1. Choose one of the Amazonian tribes to research. Create a visual presentation about this tribe to the class.
2. Use both text and a graph to explain how human activities have negatively affected the lives of animals in the Amazon rainforest.
3. Create a word wall that shows both the English and Spanish words for important terms about the Amazon rainforest.
4. Research a European explorer who traveled to the Amazon rainforest area. Explain how these Europeans affected the lives of the native people of the Amazon.
5. Coordinate a market day in your school or classroom that focuses on products that come from the Amazon rainforest.
6. Write letters to an environmental group asking for tips about how to help save the rainforests from deforestation.
7. Choose an endangered animal from the Amazon rainforest to research. Write and deliver a persuasive speech about the animal and the need to protect it from extinction.