THE CAPYBARA

Tales of the River

Capybara used to be solitary animals like tapir. Hii wanna hang out? Hang out? What’s that? It’s like being by yourself, only with company.

We could look for grass together! What happens if we find it? We share it! Share it? What’s that? Oh, never mind. And that’s the way things were until...

One day... Don’t wander off, Pepe! I’m not wandering off, Mum! I’m exploring!

Ooh, look at that grass over the river! Looks tasty! Should I? Delicious! That’s not fair! That animal over there is eating all the grass! Best I ever tasted, and that’s a fact! Yummy!

What? Hmm, better not. Mum would be cross.

Want some? You better get over here then! Meanwhile... Pepe! Pepe! Where are you Pepe?

Taste good? I knew it would because when I was standing on the other side of the river, my mouth was watering! Mine too!

Hey! Eh?

And hurry. There’s not much left and it’s going fast!

Go on, clear off! All right. All right. Just having a bit of fun!

You were nearly that Jaguar’s dinner! Pepe! Mama!

Luckily you lot turned up when you did! L-necked, you mean?

Yeah! We’ve decided we need to hang out together sometimes. Hang out you mean?

And nowadays they hang out all the time!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ROSIE?

HI, HOT-SHOT. JUST COLLECTING SOME LEAVES FOR MY MUM. SHE'S GOT A HEADACHE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

MANGO?

THANKS!

WANNA SHOOT GOAL?

YOU PUT THIS NET UP?

NO, I JUST FOUND IT.

FUNNY. IT WASN'T HERE YESTERDAY.

OOF!

THUMP

ROOSIE! YOU OKAY?

YEAH. I'LL GET HELP!

DON'T BOTHER.

GAAAAH!

YOU WON'T HAVE TIME. HE'LL BE ON HIS WAY ALREADY.

WHEN?

WHO?

BOSS CAYMAN, THAT'S WHO.

SERVES ME RIGHT FOR BEING AN IDIOT.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

GIVE ME A MOMENT...

I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING...
HEY Subway! DO YOU know what kind of tree THIS is?

NO!

NO, why?

BECAUSE they're as heavy as cannonballs!

SEE HOW MANY you can shoot down?

OK!

NEXT you run and hide! THAT'S BOSS Caiman COMING!

WHAT NEXT?

OK, THAT'S ENOUGH! ANY MORE and we'll break the branch!

ROSIE! WELL, WELL! WHAT'A SURPRISE!

KEEP BACK NOW. I'LL HAVE YOU OUT OF THERE IN A JIFFY!

HEADACHE, BOSS?

OOGA URGH!

HAHA HA HA HA!
FOLLOW THE CLUES TO DISCOVER THE IDENTITY OF...

THE MOST DANGEROUS CREATURE IN THE AMAZON!

A PEACEFUL SCENE... HARMLESS AND INVITING. RIGHT? WRONG! VENTURE IN... IF YOU DARE!

COUNT HOW MANY OF THE FOLLOWING ANIMALS YOU CAN SEE IN THE PICTURE...

A. SQUIRREL
B. MONKEY
C.树蛇
D. IGUANA
E. TARANTULA
F. KINKAJO
G. BUTTERFLY
H. TANAGER

OKAY! NOW GO TO THE VULTURE GANG STORY ON PAGE 17 AND LOCATE THE PANEL THAT MATCHES THE NUMBER OF ANIMALS.

NEXT, FIND THE LETTER HIDDEN IN THAT PANEL AND WRITE IT IN THE CORRECT BOX BELOW.

A B C D E F G H

FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU FIND 7 ON PAGE 17, GO TO PANEL 17 IN THE VULTURE GANG STORY. IF YOU FIND THE LETTER "S" ON THIS PANEL, WRITE IT IN BOX 7. GOOD LUCK AND WATCH YOUR BACK. THE SUBJECT IS A KILLER!
1 WHICH CAIMAN IS THE BIGGEST?
   A THE BLACK CAIMAN? □
   B THE SPECTACLED CAIMAN? □
   C THE SMOOTH-FRONTED CAIMAN? □

2 THE SCHNEIDER DWARF CAIMAN LIVE IN FOREST STREAMS SOMETIMES BARELY DEEP ENOUGH TO CONCEAL THEM. THEY HAVE AN UNUSUAL WAY OF KEEPING THEIR NESTS SAFE AND WARM. DO THEY...
   A BUILD THEM IN TREE TOPS TO CATCH THE SUN? □
   B SIT ON THEM ALL DAY AND ALL NIGHT? □
   C BUILD THEM BESIDE TERMITE NESTS? □

3 THE SMALLEST CAIMAN, THE CUvier’S DWARF, ARE UNUSUAL BECAUSE...
   A THEY DANCE AT DAWN TO BIRDSONG. □
   B THEY CAN SWIM FASTER THAN A DOLPHIN. □
   C THEY LIKE SPENDING MOST OF THE DAY IN THEIR BURROWS. □

4 THE BIGGEST CAIMAN EVER IS EXTINCT NOW. IT WAS 12 M LONG! HOW BIG IS THE BIGGEST CAIMAN YOU MIGHT MEET TODAY?
   A 4M LONG? □
   B 8M LONG? □
   C 6M LONG? □

5 A JAGUAR WAS RECENTLY SEEN IN A FIGHT WITH A TWO-AND-A-HALF METRE CAIMAN. WHO WON?
   A NEITHER ONE. THEY THOUGHT BETTER OF IT AND WENT THEIR SEPARATE WAYS. □
   B THE CAIMAN GOBBLED UP THE JAGUAR. □
   C THE JAGUAR GOBBLED UP THE CAIMAN. □

HOW DID YOU DO?
THREE OUT OF FIVE OR LESS, STAY AWAY FROM CAIMAN!
FOUR OR FIVE - I COULD USE YOUR HELP!

ANSWERS ON THE BACK PAGE!
Spot the Difference!
CAN YOU SPOT 12 DIFFERENCES?
Night monkeys can swing and jump through the tree tops in almost total darkness. How do they do it?

Electric eels have about 6,000 special cells in their bodies that store power like tiny batteries. A big eel (they grow to 3m or more) can discharge enough electricity to stun a horse!

Electric eels aren't actually eels at all. They're more closely related to catfish.

As an extra aid to their night-vision eyes, night monkeys leave chemical trails!

The mostly nocturnal kinkajou has a long tongue with which it probes for honey and insects. It has a prehensile tail it can hang from and a very useful adaptation which allows it to run down trees almost as fast as it can run up them - reversible ankles!

Deep in the forest near the Brazil-Bolivia border lies an abandoned railway line 366 km long. Hulks of hundred-year-old locomotives lie rusting in the undergrowth. The Madeira-Mamora Railway line took five years to construct and six thousand of its twenty thousand workers died from fever, animal attacks and indigenous tribes defending their lands... no wonder it's known as the devil's railway!

The Amazon basin used to be part of the Pacific ocean and manatees were oceanic creatures like any other whale or dolphin. When the Andes rose up and cut off their access to the sea, manatees had to adapt to a freshwater river system!
DID YOU KNOW OTTER IS KNOWN AS RIVER WOLF? IT'S BECAUSE OF HIS LEGENDARY SKILLS...

ONE OF WHICH IS TELLING ENTERTAINING STORIES ABOUT HOW LEGENDARY HE IS!

AND WITH MY LAST OUNCE OF STRENGTH I BIT THAT GIANT WATER SNAKE IN HALF!

TELL US ANOTHER STORY RIVER WOLF!

AND BEFORE LONG, OTTER WAS HARDLY FISHING AT ALL!

SO I LOOKED THAT MONSTER IN THE EYE AND SAID AHAA!

WEREN'T YOU SCARED? NO!

HE BECAME FAT AND LAZY, BUT THE CHILDREN LOVED HIM! EVERYTHING WENT WELL UNTIL...

...ONE STORMY DAY...

BLOODEYE CAIMAN CAME TO TOWN!

HE ATE ALL THE FISH IN THE RIVER. EVEN THE PIRANHA WERE HUNGRY!

I'M STARVING! I NEED FOOD!

PEEKABOO!

SORRY TO ALARM YOU! JUST WONDERED... COULD YOU THREE USE SOME LEFT-OVERS?

YOU'RE WELCOME!

THE CHILDREN CALLED ON RIVER WOLF.

HE'S EATEN ALL THE FISH! THERE'S NONE LEFT TO EAT!

YOU'VE GOT TO GET RID OF HIM!

YOU'VE GOT TO GET RID OF HIM!

YOU'VE GOT TO GET RID OF HIM!

USE THE DOUBLE TWIST WOLF-CLAW!

LIKE YOU DID WITH THE MONSTER!

W-WHAT?

SO RIVER WOLF WENT STRAIGHT INTO ACTION!

NOT SO FAST KIDS. I'VE ER, I'VE GOT A THORN IN MY FOOT!
LOOKIN’ FER ME?

WAHAT A SHOW-DOWN

NOW YOU

OR

THUMP

WANTIN’

A SHOW-DOWN

STOP RIGHT

HERE BLOODEYE. I’M WARNING YOU,

AND I’LL

YOU’LL...?

OOF!

BUMP

HOOYAY! YOU'RE

OUR HERO. RIVER

WOLF! YOU CHASED

BLOODEYE CAIMAN

AWAY!

YOU OWW OWW OWW:

WHAT HAPPENED

AFTER THAT? WE

DON'T KNOW FOR

SURE. RIVER WOLF

IS NOT TELLING

STORIES ANY-

MORE. HE'S BACK

FISHING - AND

HE'S AS GOOD AS

EVER AT IT!

HEH?

I DID?

BITE HOM COME!

CHOMP HOM CHOMP!

COLOUR IN THE

BUTTERFLY'S WINGS

AND PROVE THE

SHOW-OFF

WRONG!

HEY YOU!

I'M THE MOST

BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY

IN THIS FOREST AND

YOU'RE CROWDING ME!

SO SCRAM!
ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A SHY LITTLE ARUANA FISH...
COMING TO PLAY WITH US?

ER, OKAY.

WHO WASN'T MUCH GOOD AT THE GAMES THE OTHER FISH PLAYED!
YOU GOTA ZIG ZAG AROUND ALL THE ROOTS!

OOF!

KEEP THE CIRCLE GOING!
I'M GETTING DIZZY!

AND AS FOR CATCHING INSECTS ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER...

WELL SHE WAS JUST TERRIBLE!

WHY SO GLUM?
OH MUM, I'M NO GOOD AT ANYTHING!

NONSENSE! LIKE WHAT?
LIKE CATCHING INSECTS!

YOU JUST HAVE TO SWIM FASTER, THAT'S ALL!

WHAT'S SHE FOLLOWING US FOR? SHE'S NO FUN AT ALL!

COME ON GANG!
HEY! LOOK AT ALL THE INSECTS!
PITY THEY'RE ALL UP ON THAT BRANCH OUT OF REACH.

SWIM FASTER...

SURE! FOLLOW ME!

WOW!
THAT'S AMAZING.
CAN YOU TEACH US HOW TO DO THAT?

ARUANA OWE A LOT TO THAT SHY LITTLE FISH!
TAKE YOUR CUSINS FOR A PICNIC, OHIO. BUT LOOK OUT FOR THEM. THEY'RE FROM THE CITY!
OK, DAD.

20 MINUTES LATER:
HERE'S A GOOD PLACE!

NO! I WANT TO PICNIC OVER THERE!

DON'T SIT TOO CLOSE TO THAT TREE! IT'S A CEYPROTA, FULL OF ANTS!

I KNOW THAT! DON'T THINK YOU CAN LECTURE ME JUST BECAUSE I'M NOT FROM THE VILLAGE LIKE YOU!

OK, BUT MY DAD TOLD ME.
LALALALAL! NOT LISTENING!

WHAT ABOUT HERE?
THIS WAY! FOLLOW ME!

DON'T GO THROUGH THERE! THERE'S AN ELECTRIC EEL IN THAT WATER!
UNCLE PEDRO'S HORSE.
SHUT UP! YOU THINK I'M STUPID?

KAZZAP!

LATER...
DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S RUDE TO STARE?

IT'S RUDE TO LAUGH AS WELL!
Trees are great! Listen up! I’ll tell you what I mean!

The whole country of Brazil is named after a tree! Europeans knew about the tree before they knew of and named the country!

One of the most valuable rainforest crops is rosewood, used in perfume!

A ton of chippings makes only 10 kg (20lb) of oil!

A single rainforest tree can be home to as many as 2000 insect species!

Cecropia trees house ants in their hollow stems!

Their leaves, roots and latex are used as medicine for tummy upsets and depression!

The Brazil-nut tree’s best friend is the agouti! Agoutis store the nuts they find by burying them. The nuts they forget about grow into new Brazil-nut trees!

Carapanauba or paddlewood trees are resistant to termites. Also...

...they are made up of many thin buttresses! So...

...when you walk in the forest, look out for a Carapanauba tree with a paddle-shaped piece missing. Yep! You can guess where the trees got their other name from!
THE CULTURE GANG

DO YOU BOYS SEE WHAT I SEE?
SURE DO! IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT!
A RHAPSODY FOR THE EYES!
I AGREE, AND I HOPE SHE AND HER GROOM ARE HAPPY FOREVER!

IDIOT! WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE WEDDING CAKE! JUST FOR THAT YOU GET TO DO THE DIVERSION!

THE DIVERSION? SAY, WHERE IS THAT WEDDING CAKE ANYWAY?
OVER THERE, DON!
OH - YEAH, RIGHT THEN, GET TO IT, TUCO!

IF THEY THINK I'M GOING TO HELP THEM RUIN THAT HAPPY YOUNG COUPLE'S SPECIAL DAY, THEY'RE SORELY MISTAKEN!
OHHH, HOW DELICIOUS!
WHAT A MASTERPIECE!

DINNE!
A WONDER!

MEANWHILE...
INCREDIBLE!
AND THEY SAY VULTURES WILL EAT ANYTHING!
IT'S NOT THAT BAD!
NITWITS!
IT'S CARDBOARD!
WHERE'S THAT IDIOT TUCO? THIS IS ALL HIS FAULT!

ER... SORRY ABOUT THAT!
IT - IT WAS THE SHOCK, YOU KNOW, FROM THE GUN!
SAY - NICE CAKE!

Keep a look out for Issue 4!
Also, there'll be a special mini-edition just for tree-frogs!

Ok, just kidding about the mini-edition!

Answers

Rosie's Camilla Quizz: 1A 2C 2A 4C 5C

The most dangerous creature: The Mosquito. Yes, this one's the worst.

Any Carman will work. Magic or poison. Arrow poisons do not work on living things. Both are highly lethal.

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